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DAILY REPORT

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Soviet Union

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U.S. CONDUCTS NUCLEAR TEST IN NEVADA; COMMENTARY

Test 'Undermining' Geneva

LD221548 Moscow TASS in English 1544 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Washington, April 22 TASS -- The United States has conducted another nuclear explosion at the range in Nevada. The explosion's yield is from 20 to 150 kilotons. This is the third nuclear explosion conducted by the United States this year. Disregarding vital interests and aspirations of all peoples, including its own people, Washington took the road of the actual undermining of the Geneva arrangements, resorted to actions that complicate still more the tense situation in the world arena. The nuclear explosions in Nevada dash the unique chance to set a real beginning to the disarmament process.

Administration 'Distorts Facts'

LD221637 Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 22 TASS -- Despite widespread protests by the American and international public the United States conducted a new nuclear weapon test in Nevada. The yield of the blast ranged from 20 to 150 kilotons, it was reported by a spokesman of the United States Department of Energy. This is already the third officially announced nuclear test in the United States this year.

As is known, the Reagan administration has rejected the Soviet proposal to impose a mutual moratorium on all nuclear explosions which could become an important step towards curbing the nuclear arms race. Washington contends that the United States needs the continuation of nuclear tests to overcome its "lag" behind the USSR in this field. But American specialists themselves say tht no such U.S. lag in the field of nuclear tests exists. So the administration openly distorts facts in order to justify the continued buildup of nuclear arsenals in the United States and the creation of even deadlier weapons systems.

U.S. 'Dreaming' of Superiority

LD221744 Moscow TASS in English 1719 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- TASS military news analyst Vladimir Chernyshev writes:

A new nuclear blast sounded in Nevada today. This was already the third officially announced nuclear test in the United States this year.

While continuing nuclear weapon tests contrary to the demands of peoples the United States Administration invents such illogical justifications for its peace-endangering policy that this amazes even the worldly-wise legislators on Capitol Hill. Take, for instance, the latest "invention" - the letter from the State Department to the members of Congress who are the most vigorous critics of nuclear tests. Made public only recently, it sets forth two really staggering theses.

First of all, a comprehensive nuclear test ban might "encourage" non-nuclear states to develop their own nuclear arms. The international public has always thought the opposite, that a total ban on nuclear tests would be an important step to preventing nuclear proliferation. But it follows from the "discovery" made by the present United States Administration that the more nuclear explosions are conducted in the world the smaller becomes the probability of the development of nuclear arms. This "conclusion" is akin to the White House "postulate", according to which the higher are the mountains of weapons the more there is security.

The second thesis of the Washington administration is just as distant from elementary logic. According to it a total ban on nuclear tests will "compel" countries already possessing nuclear arms to increase their nuclear arsenals. The people in Washington simply refuse to admit that tests are a sort of accelerator of the nuclear arms race. But one does not have to be a specialist in military matters to understand that it is testing that helps develop new types and systems of weapons of mass annihilation and also modernise existing systems. An end to testing would have frozen this process and with time the nuclear arms race would altogether become impossible. The matter is that the United States Administration is dreaming of military superiority and for this reason needs ever new nuclear arms and, consequently, ever new nuclear explosions. The people in Washington have learned to live with nuclear arms and, judging by everything, see no perspective other than continuing the arms race.

Tests Accelerate SDI

LD221728 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- TASS news analyst Leonid Ponomarev writes:

Another 100 nuclear tests in Nevada? Yes, this is exactly the number of nuclear explosions planned to be made by the United States in the process of developing and perfecting different units and systems planned to be used within the star wars programme, writes the British newspaper GUARDIAN today, referring to the opinion of American specialists. The newspaper points out that despite President Reagan's assurances of "a non-nuclear" character of the star wars programme, considerable sums were allocated to the U.S. Department of Energy for testing the so-called "nuclear armaments of the third generation" in addition to expenditures for tests of such armaments of the first and second generations.

Since the beginning of the current year the United States has conducted two explosions at the atomic test range in Nevada, and today -- the third. Washington intends to hold a total of not less than 15 nuclear explosions this year. These figures speak for themselves, and patently show that the leaders of the U.S. Administration only in word advocate elimination of nuclear armaments. In deed, they are developing at a speedy rate ever new types of weapons of mass destruction. These developments are centered on the star wars programme, called the Strategic Defence Initiative.

Many specialists, including American, turn down the administration's assertions on "a purely defensive character" of the Strategic Defence Initiative and openly admit that the systems being developed within the star wars programme can and will be used above all in offensive purposes. This is the opinion of former assitant to the President for national security affairs Lieutenant General Brent Scowcroft who at Reagan's request headed in 1983 the presidential commission on strategic armaments. Most of the specialists, writes the newspaper BOSTON GLOBE, agree that the SDI will not lead to elimination of nuclear weapons but only to escalation of the nuclear arms race.

Washington, as a matter of fact, is conducting the course of such an escalation. As opposite to the stand of the White House, the Soviet leadership believes that termination of nuclear tests everywhere would signify a realistic step in curbing the nuclear arms race. Termination of tests would suspend perfection of nuclear weapons, its further modernisation. There is every indication that they in Washington are in a hurry to make SDI an irreversible phenomenon: They are pressing upon Congress for considerable allocations for development of weapons of "the third generation", such as X-ray laser, electro-magnetic guns, etc. It is exactly for that purpose that the Pentagon will need to conduct more than 100 nuclear explosions. And these might be followed by another series of blasts to test new weapons of mass destruction.

Test Shows U.S. Aims

LD222138 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1700 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Commentary by Political Observer Valentin Zorin from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] Hello, comrades. The latest underground nuclear test at the Nevada proving ground is more than just another military-technical measure carried out by the Pentagon. We have here a serious act with both purely military and far-reaching political aims.

As for the military aspect, the continuation of a series of nuclear weapons tests testifies to the fact that Washington is demonstrating, not only by diplomatic notes with nebulous phrasing, but also by unambiguous practical action, that it is not ready to accept the peace-loving initiatives of the Soviet Union, which has set forth a realistic plan to rid mankind of all nuclear arsenals by the year 2000. Washington neither wished nor knew how to take advantage of the unique opportunities offered by the moratorium on nuclear test that the Soviet Union implemented for almost 9 months, and set about accelerating its tests again -- in other words, implementing steps to press ahead with the nuclear arms race.

In the feverish haste with which Washington is acting in this direction there is a substantial political aspect. The Soviet moratorium was a powerful catalyst that sharply boosted the antiwar movement throughout the world, including in the United States. The scale of this movement and its growing influence threatened to drive the Washington administration into a corner. A cynical challenge resulted: having embarked upon a new series of nuclear tests, to confront peace-loving forces with a fait accompli and let it be understood that further talk of ending nuclear tests lacks any prospect, thus insuring for themselves freedom of action in further accelerating the arms race -- this is evidently the design of that part of the Washington leadership that rejects the very notion of constructive steps in the direction of Soviet-U.S. accords aimed at seeking mutually acceptable political solutions.

One other factor should be borne in mind. At this time, at this very moment, the Reagan administration is striving to obtain record military allocations from Congress. For this a particular political atmosphere is essential. Accelerating nuclear testing and the war hysteria surrounding Libya, and whipping up the anti-Nicaraguan campaign -- according to the plans of the Washington agency of the military-industrial complex -- all this creates the political background necessary for this.

All this is so. All this has happened many times before in Washington; there is nothing new about it. What is new is the atmosphere that has arisen in the world as a result of the Soviet Union's political initiatives, as well as a growing level of awareness and a sense of responsibility among the broadest masses. It is for this reason that this time Washington's usual schemes may not work as well as they used to. The latest nuclear blasts on the Nevada proving ground are, in present conditions, certainly not the last word in the political situation that is taking shape in the world.

'Maniacal Stubbornness' Viewed

LD221648 Moscow TASS in English 1617 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 22 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko writes:

It is with a maniacal stubbornness that the United States is speeding up its programme of nuclear tests. A new nuclear explosion was conducted today at the testing range in Nevada.

According to experts, it was intended to measure the impact of the blast wave during the release of nuclear energy. As is known, the use of such impact is a component part of the programme of developing systems of space arms directed against targets both on earth and in outer space.

The new nuclear blast in Nevada, code-named "Jefferson", is already the third this year and the tenth since the Soviet Union's announcement of a unilateral moratorium on all nuclear explosions with the aim of facilitating the speediest solution of the problem of putting a general and complete ban on nuclear tests throughout the world. In all, according to data of the United States Department of Energy, the United States has already conducted 649 officially announced nuclear explosions since 1951. On the eve of the blast in Nevada the Department of State announced the intention of the United States to further continue the programme of nuclear tests.

U.S. Lacks 'Political Will'

LD221959 Moscow TASS in English 1936 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Valentin Vasilets writes:

The United States has set off a new nuclear blast at the testing range in Nevada. It came as a clear and sinister answer to the expectations of those who were still hoping that Washington at long last would heed the voice of the international public demanding an end to nuclear tests.

Whatever debates were conducted in recent years about the most expedient ways of immediately stopping the arms race almost all specialists agree on one thing: It is hard to imagine a more effective beginning of this process than a termination of nuclear tests. Because the well-known purpose of tests is to develop new, even more dangerous types and systems of weapons of mass annihilation. That is why such far-ranging circles of the public and influential politicians, including numerous members of the United States Congress, have united precisely around the demand to take such a cardinal step -- to stop the explosions. That is exactly why the world was swept by a powerful wave of protests in support of demands for an end to the race towards the nuclear precipice. For the very same reason last summer the Soviet Union announced a unilateral end to all nuclear explosions in an attempt by force of its example to bring the United States to the path of restricting the arms race.

After the introduction of the Soviet moratorium, when the attention of the whole world was again concentrated on the problems connected with this step, it became especially clear that there do not exist any really serious technical difficulties capable of obstructing the conclusion of a test-ban treaty. The groundlessness of the American Administration's standard reference to the impossibility of a reliable verification of compliance with such an agreement was convincingly demonstrated by American specialists themselves. For instance, Glenn Seaborg, a Nobel Prize winner and former chairman of the Atomic Energy Commission, says that the United States has an absolutely reliable mechanism to verify and monitor explosions. Besides, he adds, the Soviet Union has proposed on-site inspections when necessary.

In short, all that is needed is political will. But it is this that Washington lacks. The so oft-repeated assurances by high-placed members of the Washington administration about their striving for arms control are undisguised hypocrisy. There is absolutely not one fact, not one concrete step that would confirm the existence of such a striving. At the same time one has to shut one's eyes so as not to see the numerous evidence of the Reagan administration's determination to accelerate the arms race, to impart a qualitatively new character to it by switching it to outer space.

The new blast in Nevada is the tenth officially announced U.S. test since the Soviet Union introduced its unilateral moratorium. The calls to reason have proved futile, the calls to Washington to understand that in the nuclear age it is absurd to count on the strengthening of its security by building up armaments and acquiring military superiority. The subsequent constructive steps of the Soviet Government when it extended - and again unilaterally - its moratorium have also failed to evoke a response from Washington. As it was stated by the Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev, the explosions in Nevada have "cancelled a unique chance to give the disarmament process a real start". It appears that the philosophy of peace preached by Moscow remains an unknown science in Washington. The people there prefer to deify the military-industrial complex that shudders at the very thought of disarmament.

WEINBERGER BOOSTS ARMS RACE WITH SPENDING PUSH

LD221709 Moscow TASS in English 1630 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 22 TASS -- The Reagan administration continues to steer a course of whipping up the arms race and boosting military spending. This has been borne out again by U.S. Defense Secretary Caspar Weinberger's statement before the House Defense Appropriations Subcommittee. Speaking there, he demanded legislative approval for the administration's request for nearly 312 billion dollars in funding for military needs in fiscal 1987 and said Congress should demonstrate a commitment to bolstering U.S. military power.

Weinberger said that the administration intended first of all to push along with a program "to modernize and improve all aspects of our strategic forces", whose ultimate goal is to forge a potential for dealing with a first nuclear strike to the USSR. The Pentagon chief said in this connection that the administration was requesting funds to purchase 21 MX ballistic missiles, an additional Trident nuclear submarine and Trident II (D-5) missiles.

Besides, according to his words, the Pentagon will press on with developing the Stealth strategic bomber and two new bomber-delivered missile systems, including an "advanced cruise missile".

Weinberger also made it clear that, defying broad-based U.S. and international public protests, Washington would keep testing nuclear weapons, which, he said, was needed to upgrade U.S. nuclear forces.

Speaking of conventional forces, the defense secretary said his department would continue placing emphasis on increasing their armories. He paid special attention to plans to further reinforce U.S. "special operations forces" which the Pentagon has been using widely for subversion in various parts of the world and as a means of intimidating the governments of countries following independent international policies.

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SOVIET GOVERNMENT STATEMENT ON ASIA-PACIFIC REGION

LD230930 Moscow TASS in English 0920 GMT 23 Apr 86

["Soviet Government -- Statement" -- TASS item identifier]

[Text] Moscow April 23 TASS -- The world is passing through an intranquil and crucial phase of development when political will, a new approach, far-sighted decisions and practical actions are required with a view to improving the international situation radically. The time now is such when it is necessary to learn the great art of living together both in the world as a whole and in its individual regions in particular.

Advocating detente, the complete elimination of nuclear weapons before the end of the current century, the establishment of a comprehensive system of international security and the development of cooperation -- these proposals found their vivid manifestation in the documents of the 27th Congress of the Communist Party of the Soviet Union -- the U.S.S.R. takes into consideration in full measures the interests of the countries of the Asian-Pacific region. Important processes are taking place there which cannot but have an impact on the positions of the Soviet Union as one of the largest Asian and Pacific Ocean powers, on those of its friends and allies, and on the interests of international peace and security.

In the existing conditions it is especially necessary to show mutual restraint, refrain from any actions that would worsen the political climate in that region of the world and hold back the consolidation and development of the positive processes there -- the processes that promote the continuation of dialogue and the search for ways for improving the international situation.

Meanwhile, actions of this kind leading to the aggravation of tensions in the region are are being taken by the United States of America and its allies. Judging from everything, certain political circles in the USA and Japan do not picture the future of the Asian-Pacific region in any other way than in the form of confrontation of different countries. On the practical plane, attempts are being made for that purpose to create a structure and mechanism of a so-called "Pacific community" which can be transformed in the future into a closed regional grouping, into another militaristic bloc.

Approaching in the most selective manner the list of potential members of the "Pacific community", its initiators clearly show no concern for making the proposed organization a truly representative forum for the discussion and solution of the long-pressing economic problems of the region, and also for changing the inequitable structure of interstate trade and economic relations that has taken shape there.

The world has witnessed more than once how the screen of economic assistance and economic cooperation, the objective processes of internationalization and integration of the world economy have been used to further and substantiate imperialist plans for the establishment of military groupings, "teaties on joint defense" and so forth.

In the opinion of the Soviet Government, if no check is made to such a course of the development of events in the area where interests of many states of the world converge and become intertwined, it can lead to a serious aggravation of tensions in the Asian-Pacific region.

The foundation for friendly relations, for building up trust and promoting mutual understanding among peoples in that part of the world, just as in other regions for that matter, can and should be the development of equitable cooperation that is open to all, rather than efforts to put some states in opposition to others.

Given such an approach -- and all peoples are interested precisely in it -- there cannot be any room for knocking together blocs and counter-blocs, for establishing all kinds of "axes", "triangles", for forming closed groupings, or cultivating protectionism and discriminatory measures in maintaining mutual trade and economic ties.

The Soviet Government believes that, despite the difference in the political systems, ideologies and world outlooks, the peoples of the Asian-Pacific region are bound together by the community of vital interests. In the conditions of the growing interdependence of states it is much more difficult, or altogether impossible, to solve the existing problems on one's own or in an isolated group; for that purpose it is necessary to pool the constructive efforts of all states of the region irrespective of their socio-political systems.

The elimination of nuclear and chemical weapons by the end of the current century and prevention of the militarization of outer space, as proposed by the Soviet Union, would rid the peoples the world over and, naturally, in the Asian-Pacific region of the fear of nuclear and chemical threat, radically change the situation, elevate the security of states to a new level and promote the creation of felicitous conditions for the development of mutually advantageous cooperation.

The Soviet Union also proposes to press through bilateral and multilateral consultations for a solution to contentious issues, for better mutual understanding and for the building of confidence and thereby to create prerequisites for the holding of an all-Asian forum for a joint search for constructive solutions. It would be possible appropriately to prepare and hold a separate meeting of the countries of the Pacific Ocean area to consider matters of security, including those of economic ones. Considering the potential of the countries of the Pacific Ocean area in the political and economic fields, the holding of such a meeting -- and one should see to it that it ends with important decisions -- would become a major event for the region and would have a fruitful effect on the situation in the world as a whole.

The implementation of confidence-building measures and a reduction in the activity of navies in the Pacific Ocean would play a stabilizing role.

The Soviet Union would welcome the establishment of nuclear-free zones in the Asian-Pacific region. The decision of the southern Pacific countries to declare the area a nuclear-free zone has met with the most positive response in the Soviet Union.

It stands to reason that all countries of the Pacific Ocean are wishing to take part in the consideration of matters of security in the Pacific Ocean and in the elaboration of decisions should do so. A number of countries have already come forward with various proposals aimed at strengthening security in the area. The proposals deserve serious attention.

While tackling large-scale tasks of accelerating social and economic development, the Soviet Union gives paramount attention to the areas of Siberia and the Far East which are part of the Asian-Pacific region. Stable, mutually beneficial trade-and-economic relations have developed between the Soviet Union and many countries of the region. The growth of industrial and agricultural basis, the completion of the construction of the Baykal-Amur mainline, the development of rich oil-and-gas, coal and other deposits of energy carriers, and the drawing of new raw timber resources of the area into economic uses objectively create additional important material prerequisites for the USSR's more active participation in the process of international division of labour, trade-and-economic, scientific and technical cooperation with countries of Asia and the Pacific Ocean area.

The Soviet Union is proposing to start a wide exchange of views between all interested countries of that part of the world on matters aimed at establishing equitable, mutually beneficial and steady trade-and-economic, technological, scientific and cultural cooperation. The following could become spheres of such cooperation: The development of productive forces, the training of personnel, the use of new sources of energy, including nuclear ones, the upgrading of means of transportation, communication, the revelation of new forms of trade-and-economic, and financial cooperation with due regard for the interests of the developing countries of the region, exchanges of scientific and scientific-and-technical information, the development of measures for the protection of the environment and for rational utilization of biological and mineral resources of seas and oceans, the conduct of peaceful space research for common benefit, joint work in the field of medicine and health care, efforts to combat natural calamities and to eliminate their aftermath, and so on.

It is clear that these complex, diverse and large-scale problems will require collective preparation of big long-term projects and programmes and the participation of all the countries concerned in their implementation. The ideas which are available in this respect could be considered within the framework of the existing U.N. machinery, through the economic and social commission for Asia and the Pacific, in particular.

There is deep conviction in the Soviet Union that the establishment of large-scale cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual benefit between all countries of the Asian-Pacific region irrespective of difference of their social systems meets the basic interests of the countries of that part of the world and will promote a restructuring of international relations on an equitable, democratic basis. Our country is ready to participate most actively in such regional peaceful cooperation and to use for the purposes all economic, scientific and technical potential at its disposal.

The strengthening of good-neighbourliness and friendship between all Asian-Pacific countries and the pooling of their efforts in the common search for constructive solutions to the problems of security in Asia and the Pacific Ocean area would have a favourable effect not only on the situation in the Asian-Pacific region but would also become a contribution to the cause of the preservation and strengthening of universal peace.

DUBININ COMMENTS ON UN FORCE IN LEBANON

LD190958 Moscow TASS in English 0616 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 19 TASS -- The Security Council has unanimously passed a resolution to renew the mandate of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon, expiring on April 19, for another three months at the request of the Lebanese Government and on recommendations from the U.N. secretary-general.

The permanent representative of the USSR to the United Nations, Yu.V. Dubinin, said the Soviet Union shared the Lebanese Government's opinion about the need in existing conditions to keep the U.N. force in Lebanon. Its presence, he said, constituted a factor hindering the implementation of Israel's aggressive plans in south Lebanon.

The Soviet Union, Dubinin said, had decided to support the Security Council resolution to extend the mandate of the U.N. Interim Force in Lebanon and declared its readiness from this time on to share in funding for that force.

NONALIGNED COORDINATING BUREAU MEETS IN INDIA

PRAVDA Previews

PM171328 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Own special correspondent V. Korovikov dispatch: "Topical Tasks of Nonalignment"]

[Text] Delhi, April -- The Nonaligned Movement Coordinating Bureau, convened at foreign minister level, opens a meeting in Delhi on 16 April. The meeting, in which more than 100 delegations will be taking part, is being held on the eve of the eighth conference of the heads of state and government of nonaligned countries, which is scheduled to take place in the Zimbabwean capital of Harare.

At the sessions in Delhi the ministers are to analyze the development of the world situation since the seventh supreme forum of the Nonaligned Movement was held here in March 1983. As people will be aware, at that time the participants in the movement, whose chairman was the late Indira Gandhi, declared their main tasks to be the struggle for peace, disarmament, development, and a new international economic system.

Today those same tasks are even more acute. Assessing the events of recent years on the eve of the session, the Indian press concludes that this is caused by the growing aggressiveness of imperialist forces headed by the United States, which is increasingly resorting to a "big stick" policy on a global scale and is also pursuing a blatantly neocolonialist course regarding the developing countries.

The Coordinating Bureau session's draft declaration issued here says that averting the threat of nuclear war is now the most important problem and that disarmament is a question of mankind's survival. The document expresses support for the program to rid the planet of nuclear weapons by the end of the century proposed by M.S. Gorbachev and criticizes Washington's obstructionist, "pronuclear" stance.

As people know, the U.S. stance has also manifested itself in the insolent way that they have ignored across the Atlantic the Delhi Declaration by the leaders of six countries, which calls for nuclear arsenals to be scrapped and the militarization of outer space to be prevented. This approach by Washington is seen in the dozens of states belonging to the Nonaligned Movement as political irresponsibility. The U.S. refusal to join the Soviet moratorium on nuclear tests and the development of the "star wars" program across the Atlantic have caused indignation in the developing countries. "It is quite clear," the Indian newspaper THE PATRIOT writes, "that the United States is resorting to nuclear blackmail to establish its world domination."

Growing unease is also being caused in Asia, Africa, and Latin America by the fact that in its attempts to restore its lost positions in the developing world American imperialism is using methods of strong-arm diktat with increasing vigor. The occupation of Grenada, the hostile acts against Nicaragua, the direct attacks on Libya, the arming and financing of reactionary bandit groups in Angola and Afghanistan, and the militarist hustle and bustle in the Indian Ocean are all actions, local commentators point out, that are not only contrary to the Nonaligned Movement's interests but are also aimed against many of its participants.

The imperialist powers combine their military and political pressure on the Nonaligned Movement's countries with increasing economic plunder and financial fettering of those countries. It is enough to point out that their total foreign debt already tops $3 trillion. This is how the session's draft declaration assesses the prevailing situation: "Trading conditions for the developing countries have sharply deteriorated; capital inflow is at a standstill; export earnings are falling... Many states are poorer today than they were 10 years ago." This is the result of the neocolonialist policy pursued by imperialism, which is carrying out the most brutal exploitation of the developing countries and is seeking to increase inequality in international economic relations.

The events of recent years have revealed with new force the antipeople nature of imperialism. The inextricable link between the growing financing of imperialist powers' militarist preparations and the increasingly disastrous state of hundreds of millions of people in Asia, Africa, and Latin America has become particularly obvious to the developing countries. That is why there is ever increasing support on those continents for the initiatives and actions of the Soviet Union and the other socialist states aimed at ending the arms race and making constructive use of the world's productive forces and resources. It is becoming increasingly plain that there is an objective need to strengthen solidarity between the Nonaligned Movement and the socialist countries in the struggle for peace, security, and social progress.

The Delhi meeting of the Nonaligned Movement's Coordinating Bureau, as can already be judged from the draft declaration and press articles, will be an important forum, one which is designed to make an important new contribution to the struggle on behalf of the movement's goals and tasks and to promote the success of the upcoming summit conference.

End to Arms Race Sought

LD190410 Moscow TASS in English 2238 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi April 17 TASS -- By TASS correspondents Vladimir Baydashin and Stanislav Sychev:

Participants in the Non-Aligned Coordinating Bureau's session, currently under way here, have called for an end to the nuclear arms race, return to the policy of detente and rebuff to the Washington administration's policy of "neoglobalism".

The demand was made by the representatives of Cyprus, Algeria, Afghanistan, Zimbabwe, Kuwait and other nations.

Following the Soviet-American meeting in Geneva, which generated great hopes worldwide, said Afghanistan's Foreign Minister Shah Mohammad Dost, the United States had been departing further and further away from the letter and spirit of the Geneva meeting and betraying the expections of all of mankind.

The United States not only failed to respond to the USSR's constructive initiatives related to a number of topical international problems, but was acting contrary to these proposals.

The "star wars" plans and aggressive acts of "neoglobalism" of the Reagan administration were designed to heighten international tension and push the world toward armed confrontation.

Zimbabwe's Foreign Minister Witness Mangwende criticised Washington's doctrine of "neoglobalism." This reckless doctrine was especially dangerous in the nuclear age and should be repulsed, he pointed out. The Non-Aligned Movement should do everything to strengthen world peace and security.

U.S. Policy Criticized

LD201754 Moscow TASS in English 225[illegible] GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi April 19 TASS -- The main objective of the non-aligned countries is to fight for preventing the threat of nuclear war forced by U.S. imperialism, for complete and general disarmament, in the first place nuclear disarmament, for international detente, strengthening peace and security, for a new international economic order. This idea was expressed in the addresses by the delegates of Vietnam, Ethiopia, Zambia, Nepal and Mauritius at the session of the Coordination Bureau of the non-aligned countries at the foreign ministers' level here.

Nguyen Co Thach, SRV foreign minister, condemned in his speech the U.S. policy of state terrorism. The USA has tens of times unleashed aggressions and interventions against many countries in different continents, he said. The latest example of this has been the U.S. aggression against Libya. The Vietnamese minister strongly criticised the U.S. policy of escalation of the arms race on earth and the attempts at spreading it into outer space. Therefore, we support all initiatives directed at ridding mankind of the threat of a nuclear catastrophe, Nguyen Co Thach stressed. In that connection we are expressing satisfaction at the support contained in the draft declaration of the Coordination Bureau for the Soviet Union's large-scale programme aimed at a total elimination of nuclear and other types of mass destruction weapons.

Vietnam also supports Mongolia's proposal that a convention should be concluded on mutual non-aggression and non-use of force between the states of Asia and the Pacific. Nguyen Co Thach declared for a settlement in Indochina on the basis of the decisions adopted at the 12th foreign ministers' conference of the SRV, Laos and Kampuchea, directed at ensuring lasting peace and stability in Southeast Asia.

Ethiopia welcomes the Soviet Union's recent proposals on ridding the world of nuclear weapons by the year 2000, said Ethiopia's Foreign Minister Goshu Wolde. Yet, the Reagan administration's stand on that issue leaves little room for optimism. The whole U.S. strategy is aimed at ensuring nuclear supremacy for it. The Reagan administration's militaristic policy jeopardizes peace and international security, the minister said. We should rally our ranks even close to give a rebuff to imperialism.

Declaration Adopted

LD210404 Moscow TASS in English 0957 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi April 20 -- TASS correspondents Vladimir Baydashin and Stanislav Sychev report:

The non-aligned countries' Coordinating Bureau has ended its session at a foreign minister level here. The session brought together about 100 delegations from the non-aligned countries and also from the national liberation movements and international organisations.

The session chaired by India has become the last stage in preparations for the forthcoming eighth conference of the heads of state and government of the non-aligned countries due to open in Harare, capital of Zimbabwe, late in August this year.

The bureau was in session in New Delhi in the days when the United States perpetrated the aggression against Libya, a member of the Non-Aligned Movement. The bureau held an emergency meeting which strongly denounced the U.S. bandit actions against the sovereign state and demanded an immediate end to the aggression against Libya. The non-aligned states declared their full support for the Libyan people's struggle against U.S. imperialism's intrigues.

Issues of war and peace, nuclear disarmament and development were centerpiece to the four-day debates at the bureau's session. The session adopted a political declaration which points out during the period that has elapsed since the previous summit conference of the non-aligned countries the Non-Aligned Movement continued to play a major role in promoting peace and peaceful co-existence, disarmament and development, and in strengthening independence. The document confirms the movement's fundamental principles: the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, racism, Zionism and all forms of foreign aggression and interference in domestic affairs. The unity and cohesion of the non-aligned countries and their strict compliance with the principles and objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement are more and more vital at the current complex period in international affairs, the declaration says.

The foreign ministers expressed satisfaction with the resumption of the dialogue between the Soviet Union and the United States, indicating that it should lead to the relaxation of tension in relations between the great powers and, ultimately, in the world, and make a positive contribution towards strengthening international security. The ministers confirmed that there could be no alternative to cooperation and peaceful co-existence of states irrespective of the differences in their political, economic and social systems.

The ministers, says the declaration, welcomed the comprehensive and timely programme for nuclear disarmament advanced by the Soviet Union and emphasized the nuclear weapons posed the most awesome threat to peace. They drew attention to the urgent need for all nuclear powers to conclude a treaty on the total ban on the tests of all types of nuclear weapons. The document expresses regret over the unconstructive stand taken by the United States on the issue of nuclear disarmament.

The participants in the session called for stamping out apartheid in the south of Africa as soon as possible and for granting independence to Namibia. They declared for exercising the inalienable right of the Arab people of Palestine to self-determination and creating an independent state, and demanded an end to the Israeli occupation of the captured Arab lands. The ministers drew attention to the need to resolve all disputed issues by peaceful means. They also declared for strengthening the role of the United Nations and its organisations, among others, UNESCO.

The participants in the session expressed confidence that the holding of the eighth conference of the heads of state and government of the non-aligned countries in Harare would become an event of immense importance in the history of the Non-Aligned Movement.

TASS Analyzes

LD212333 Moscow TASS in English 1706 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 20 TASS -- TASS Political News Analyst Sergey Kulik writes:

The results of the session of the Coordinating Bureau of the non-aligned countries forcefully show anew that the quintessence of the policy of non-alignment remains the struggle against imperialism, colonialism, neo-colonialism, apartheid, racism, including Zionism, foreign aggressions, occupation, dominance, interference and hegemony. The sole fact that the foreign ministers of almost 100 countries who attended the New Delhi forum sent their mission to Libya so as to express solidarity with that country, which came under the U.S. bandit attack, is enough to understand what political winds prevail in the Non-Aligned Movement.

The decisions of the bureau on questions of war and peace are of clearly anti-imperialist nature. The forum adopted a political declaration which welcomes the comprehensive and timely programme for nuclear disarmament advanced by the Soviet Union. The foreign ministers confirmed that in our day and age there can be no alternative to cooperation and peaceful co-existence of states irrespective of the differences in their political, economic and social systems. The analysis of the mainstream in the activity and priority tasks of the Non-Aligned Movement, formulated in New Delhi, their comparison with the fundamental principles of the foreign policy of the USSR and other socialist countries show the proximity or concurrence of the positions and objectives of the Non-Aligned Movement and the socialist community. At hand is the availability of ample opportunities for their further constructive interaction on cardinal problems of our time with a view to strengthening world peace.

In their attempts to bring down the anti-imperialist pitch of the Non-Aligned Movement, bourgeois politicians were at pains to force on the participants in the New Delhi session a certain doctrine of "intermediate orientation", of "equal remoteness" which has as its main objective not to allow the developing countries' fruitful cooperation with socialist states. In so doing, the enemies of genuine non-alignment try to pretend that "equal remoteness" expresses the striving of the majority of the developing countries for independence.

But can upright people remain at an "equal distance" from warmongers and the fighters for mankind's peaceful future? Is it in the interests of the non-aligned states and their peoples not to see the difference between the two powers, one of which has the friendly attitude to it and the other calls it "immoral"? The force and effectiveness of the USSR's line in its relations with the non-aligned countries lies in the fact that the interests and principles of its foreign policy meet the aspirations of the people of the newly-free states. The Soviet Union welcomes the non-aligned countries' growing role in discussing and solving the pivotal world problems, first and foremost the problems of war and peace.

TASS Cites PRAVDA Comment

LD220642 Moscow TASS in English 0620 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- The lessons of the events in the Mediterranean have left their impact on the whole work of the Coordination Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, PRAVDA's correspondent in New Delhi pointed out in his dispatch today.

He is commenting on the meeting of the Coordination Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement, which closed there. The final documents of the meeting call for concrete actions towards international detente, the correspondent pointed out. The Coordination Bureau has condemned the senseless squandering of funds on the arms race, and declared for a total ban on nuclear weapons. The representatives of the Non-Aligned Movement have again demanded that the seats of colonialism and racism in South Africa be eliminated, the Middle East conflict and other crises be peacefully settled. It has also condemned acts of international terrorism, recruiting and employment of mercenaries.

Much attention was devoted at the New Delhi meeting to economic issues, the newspaper PRAVDA said. It has been pointed out in particular that the economic situation in many developing states has been deteriorating from year to year. Their foreign debts are steadily growing and have already topped a trillion dollars. The imperialist powers and their transnational monopolies exercise, as before, undivided sway in the world market. The prices of raw materials have sharply declined recently. Hunger and poverty hits hard hundreds of millions of people.

To put an end to this situation, the Non-Aligned Movement has declared for resolute measures to establish a new international economic order and to ease the burden of debts. A twenty-point programme for action in the field of international economy and trade has been put forward.

The Delhi meeting, as India's Minister of External Affairs Bali Ram Bhagat, pointed out in its closing meeting, has again demonstrated the determination of peoples on various continents to work actively for peace, disarmament, anti-colonialism and development. This active and principled stand of the non-aligned states determines the important and constructive role, which the movement plays in the troubled world today, PRAVDA says in conclusion.

PEREZ DE CUELLAR THANKS SHEVARDNADZE FOR MESSAGE

LD181640 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1532 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] New York, 18 Apr (TASS) -- Yuriy Dubinin, the USSR's permanent representative at the United Nations, handed UN General Secrerary Perez de Cuellar a message from Eduard Shevardnadze, the USSR foreign minister. "I am highly grateful for the support for the activity of the United Nations and my personal role expressed in the message," J. Perez de Cuellar said to a TASS correspondent. Speaking about the situation regarding Libya he declared: "We carefully follow the development of events and are always at the disposal of the sides to find a peaceful solution to the conflict, to prevent the expansion of military actions, and to stop them from being repeated in the future."

USSR TO CONTRIBUTE $10 MILLION TO UN 'SPECIAL ACCOUNT'

LD191149 Moscow TASS in English 1046 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 19 TASS -- The permanent mission of the USSR to the United Nations has informed the U.N. secretary-general that in response to his address to all U.N. member states the Soviet Union has decided to contribute ten million dollars to the U.N. special account in order to help the organization overcome its financial difficulties.

This was reported in a press release issued by the permanent mission of the USSR to the U.N. on Friday.

FURTHER COMMENT ON U.S. ATTACK ON LIBYA

Lomeyko Criticizes Action

LD221223 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1145 GMT 22 Apr 86

["In the USSR Foreign Ministry Press Center: Aggression Condemned" -- TASS headline]

[Text] Moscow, 22 Apr (TASS) -- Having brought disgrace on itself in connection with its barbaric attack on Libya, the U.S. Administration is making clumsy attempts to justify these crimes by demonstrating all kinds of "evidence," said Vladimir Lomeyko, head of the Press Department of the USSR Foreign Ministry. At a press conference held here, he emphasized that the universally recognized principles of international law could not be replaced by the law of the jungle.

U.S. propaganda assertions that the attack on Libya has allowed the United States to escape with impunity serves [as received] the purposes of showing that all is permitted, said the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman. Attempts to portray the aggressive operation as a jolly outing are aimed at fanning up chauvinistic intoxication in the United States itself. Washington's main loss has been the resolute condemnation of the U.S. actions throughout the world.

The British Government, having consented to the use of the bases on its territory for the U.S. strike against Libya bears responsibility for the casualties among the peaceful Libyan population, said Lomeyko. No matter what motives the Conservatives refer to, they are quilty of equal participation in the aggression. The leaders of Canada, under the pretext of condemning terrorism, have also embarked on the path of justifying state terrorism by the United States.

This cannot but give rise to bewilderment if one takes into consideration the Canadian leadership's repeated assertions about its devotion to the cause of ensuring universal peace and security.

Distorting the true state of affairs, the U.S. mass information media are currently trying to manipulate public opinion, so as to inflame chauvinistic intoxication in the United States. A groundless campaign of instigation against Libya is under way, noted the USSR Foreign Ministry spokesman. In this context, the fact that the Libyan Government condemned the Berlin explosion forthwith is being passed over in complete silence. The chauvinistic intoxication that is being fanned in the United States is being used by the administration to justify a direct and unprovoked aggression against sovereign Libya.

Reagan on Raid, French View

LD221112 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0943 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Washington, 22 Apr (TASS) -- The Washington administration intends to move matters toward a further escalation of military aggression against Libya. President Reagan's interview with a number of press agencies provides full evidence of this.

In answer to questions, he made it clear that if necessary the United States could once again resort to inflicting a military strike against Libya.

Commenting on his statements, the CBS television company reports, citing "informed Pentagon representatives," that the administration has already made the decision "to leave two aircraft carriers in the Mediterranean for an undetermined length of time." This has been done, CBS comments, in case the order is given for a new strike to be inflicted against Libya. According to the television company, "the Pentagon representatives pointed out that any new attack would be on a much wider scale than the strike inflicted last week."

CBS cites here the Pentagon men's cynical admission that in planning a new action, the U.S. Defense Department does not intend to examine the question of how to "avoid casualties amongst the local population." Against this backdrop, President Reagan's expressions of "regret" at the deaths of civilians as a result of the barbaric U.S. raid on Tripoli and Banghazi have an extremely hypocritical ring to them.

U.S. Secretary of Defense Weinberger, who spoke in one of the House of Representatives subcommittees, gave a much more frank description of the administration's policy in this regard. In answer to a question, he refused to admit U.S. responsibility for the deaths of children, women, and old people, alleging that he has seen "no convincing evidence" of this. However, it is enough to acquaint oneself with testimonies of witnesses to the criminal U.S. action, which are available even in the United States itself. The NBC television company reported yesterday in a dispatch from Banghazi, for instance, that in the town's hospitals "there is not a single serviceman among the injured," but only civilians. Bodies of children lacerated by wounds, youths wrapped up in bloody bandages, the tormented cry of a baby from behind a hospital door -- such scenes can be seen in reports from Libya.

All these people -- the elderly, women, and children -- were victims of the Pentagon's so called "surgical operation," during which barbaric systems of weaponry were used. As CBS reported in this connection, the greatest damage was done by the so-called "cluster bombs" used by the U.S. bombers. "Thousands of fragments of these bombs," the television company said, "are lying about on the shore a few kilometers from Banghazi. U.S. naval serial numbers can be seen on many of them.

Moreover, the use of cluster bombs against the civilian population was a clear violation of international law." One could supplement the television company's statement with the fact that such bombs are banned by international law altogether. As everyone knows, this barbarous weapon was used extensively by the U.S. aggressors during the dirty war in Vietnam. It is also truly monstrous that during its raids on Libya, the United States was, in fact, regarding the territory of that country as a testing ground for the latest U.S. weapons systems. The attack on Libya, the AVIATION WEEK AND SPACE TECHNOLOGY magazine stresses in this regard, "gave the U.S. Air Force its first opportunity to try out much of the technology developed since the end of the Vietnam war."

Meanwhile, the administration continues to increase pressure on its West European allies, striving to create a united front of action against Libya. During yesterday's interview, Reagan severely attacked France, saying that "he cannot find any justification" for the position adopted by that country in not allowing U.S. bombers to traverse its airspace on their way to Libya.

In this connection, he stressed that during the scheduled May meeting of heads of the leading Western countries he intends to devote his main attention to "achieving unity" in the West over this issue. Reading between the lines of his statement, the ABC television company stressed: "regardless of what new steps against Libya might be considered -- military, economic, or diplomatic -- the President is determined to strive at the Tokyo meeting for tougher action by his allies." Another television company, NBC, said this issue will be "a key one" at the "conference of the 'seven'."

Reagan Attempts to 'Disinform' Public

LD221948 Moscow TASS in English 1858 GMT 22 Apr 86

[By TASS Political News Analyst Yuriy Kornilov -- TASS byline]

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- The higher the waves of anger over the U.S. bandit attack on sovereign Libya are rising as they sweep across the world, including countries which are U.S. allies, the harder Washington is trying, with the help of all manner of propaganda tricks, to camouflage the hegemonist aims and gangster-style methods of its foreign policy.

This has been demonstrated anew by the U.S. President's interview to a number of Western wire services.

Reading it makes you amazed at how far one can go in distorting real developments.

It is known, for instance, that among the European NATO members only Britain has supported Washington's aggression against Libya and acted as a direct accomplice of the aggressor.

To listen to the President, however, it would appear that almost all U.S. allies were ready to join the criminal venture and did not do it only because the raid on Libya was staged so quickly that they simply had no time to make corrections to their policy.

The President claimed this as if in the West European capitals they weren't aware that Washington has not found it necessary to consult with its allies about the planned aggression and as if it weren't publicly known that even before the aggression the EEC countries urged the United States to show restraint.

While including a good many Western European states at one stroke among the backers of the act of banditry against Libya, the U.S. President made one exception for France.

France had not permitted the U.S. air pirates scrambled on the President's personal orders from their bases in Britain to fly over its territory before dropping their deadly bomb loads on a peaceful and independent Arab country.

So the President, giving vent to his frustration, lashed out at the French authorities and, without being fastidious in his choice of expressions, declared that he, Ronald Reagan, saw no excuse for the stand taken by Paris.

One might think he was speaking not of a sovereign European nation entitled to take the political decisions it deems necessary but about, say, California, Texas or some other U.S. state whose governor had done the White House wrong and was being taken to task.

The President also made a perplexing claim to the effect that the position which has been publicly assumed by some West European countries obviously troubled by U.S. aggression against Libya is at odds with remarks made by their representatives in private conversations with U.S. State Department officials touring various countries.

Wasn't it a direct hint at some West European capitals playing a double game? Or was the President telling a lie just as he was when claiming that as good as the whole of Western Europe was applauding the aggressor?

The White House chief had recourse to hopelessly awkward propaganda ploys when speaking of the aftermath of U.S. aggression against Libya and Washington's further plans.

Being apparently aware of the storm of worldwide outrage at the death of innocent people in Libya from U.S. bombs, Reagan claimed, by way of an excuse, that the targets had been carefully selected.

What would he say then about the photographs published all over the world, which show the ruins of apartment buildings and the victims of the bombings -- women, children and old people? These photographs speak by far more accurately and eloquently than the U.S. President about the targets the U.S. air pirates have "carefully selected" for the raid.

In his interview the U.S. President not only endeavored to disinform people and justify aggression but kept up his threats against sovereign Libya.

He made it quite plain that the United States is bent, under the downright false pretext of "fighting terrorism," on continuing to use its strength both against that country and against other independent developing nations whose independent policies do not suit Washington.

This U.S. policy of state-directed terrorism and outrages on the international scene cannot but arouse mounting indignation and concern among the people.

Whitehead Makes 'New Threats'

LD222325 Moscow TASS in English 2240 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 22 TASS -- Deputy U.S. Secretary of State John Whitehead has made new threats to Libya.

At hearings at the House Foreign Affairs Committee he said that "the United States reserves the right" "to defend itself" and undertake in the future punitive actions similar to the recent air raid on Libya.

That barbarous bombing of Libya's territory, according to the highplaced representative of the Department of State, had the aim to demonstrate to Tripoli that "continued pursuit of Libya's policy would not be without direct cost to it".

F-111's Departing UK Under 'Close' Watch

LD221724 Moscow TASS in English 1659 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 22 TASS -- 100 American F-111 bombers, based in Britain, took off from their bases under the pretext of participating in NATO exercises, the CBS television company reported.

Recalling that about two dozen such bombers were involved in the raid on Libya, a CBS newscaster stressed that their flight to hit strikes on that country was also initially motivated by the need of "participating in exercises".

A close eye is therefore kept here over the development of events, considering the fact that the U.S. Administration repeatedly threatened to stage a new attack on Libya "in case of need."

U.S. Being Brainwashed

LD190047 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1933 GMT 18 Apr 86

[From "The World today" program presented by Igor Fesunenko]

[Text] To judge from reports in the press along with critical statements, along with protests, one cannot shut one's eye to the lamentable fact that, thanks to a mass propagandist brainwashing of the population, this country -- the United States -- has been gripped by a chauvinistic intoxication. I recall that something similar was observed during the U.S. invasion of Grenada. The question arises: What is the matter? What is happening to America? Where does this cynicism and arrogance come from? And why is it that it affects both those in power and the average citizen with identical ease?

Most likely, the sources and roots of what we observe just now -- what is called the policy, the strategy of new globalism -- go back into U.S. history. Way back in the first years of the existence of the North American United States there appeared in that country ideas of a special, almost divine predestination, of some kind of indeed mythical chosen nature of America, of its right to rule the future of all mankind.

Just listen: As long ago as 1801, Thomas Jefferson announced to his compatriots that the American state system was the best hope for the world. One hundred years later, Theodore Roosevelt pronounced: The success of our experiment will determine not only our welfare but also the welfare of the whole of mankind. These are the first wisdoms of state with which even the recent inhabitants of the White House have presented to their fellow citizens.

Let us quote, Harry Truman, 1945: Whether we want to or not, we are obliged to recognize that the victory sustained by us has laid on the American people the burden of responsibility for the future leadership of the world.

Dwight Eisenhower, 1953: Fate has laid on our country the responsibility of the leadership of the free world.

John Kennedy, 1961: We have to carry out the commitments laid on us by fate in world leadership.

And finally Ronald Reagan, 1981: We will once again be the symbol of freedom and the beacon of hope for those who have no freedom.

That is how in all the 200 years of the existence of the United States the idea has been drummed into the Americans' heads of their own exclusivity. It is natural that in the heads of Philistines such an idea inevitably grows into the idea of everything being permitted. And if this Philistine is an ordinary American, as they say -- the man in the street -- then he will begin to applaud the President's decision to carry out an air raid on Libya. But if this Philistine becomes the editor of a newspaper, let us say, then he publishes articles in support of this bombing, as, let us say, the San Francisco CHRONICLE, the TRIBUNE, and some other U.S. newspapers, many U.S. newspapers, have done only recently. But if a Philistine poisoned with such ideas of everything permitted lands in the White House, then the most frightening happens: the atomic bombing of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, the invasion of Korea and Vietnam, the dominican Republic of Grenada, and finally the bombing of Libya. Let us watch these pictures once again. You and I, like the whole world, have already seen them more than once.

Let us once again evaluate the skill of the U.S. military pilots, who, as the President said, succeeded in their mission. I welcome the assistance and the professionalism of the people in our Armed Forces who carried out this operation, said the President of these gallant servicemen, of these knights without fear of reproach. Yes, the President can be proud of them; such a President can be proud of such pilots! He can receive applause and joyous laughter as his due; he has enough coolness to pay no attention to the tears of children, to the blood of his victims, to the curses and anger which the whole civilized world directs at the White House.

'Uninformed' Support Reagan

LD210948 Moscow TASS in English 0936 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- TASS Political News Analyst Sergey Kulik writes:

Having let himself be taken in by chauvinistic propaganda, thickly larded with lies, the American man-in-the-street was unable to rise to condemnation of Washington's political banditry against Libya. The ordinary Americans have the impression of a fabulous military triumph, the British newspaper OBSERVER comments, not without surprise. THE NEW YORK TIMES also points out that most of the Americans endorsed the raids on Tripoli and Banghazi. James Reston, however, explains the phenomenon by the fact that uninformed public opinion approves of President Reagan.

The Americans were indeed told and continue to be told lies. At first Washington made believe that it was out to punish Libya as a "centre of international terrorism" -- but in reality it is not the African coast of the Mediterranean but Langley that directs international terrorism. Then the Americans were hypocritically promised a "surgical operation" against Libyan military facilities -- but it was residential districts, farms and orange groves of the Libyans that were raided.

The Americans were told lies that just 57 warplanes took part in the attack on Libya though Italian radars detected 70-75 aircraft carrying out bomb runs. The Pentagon lied to the Americans, British and the whole of the outraged world that 29 bombers had flown out of Air Force bases in Britain for the raid though in reality 44 warplanes had taken off the strips in Upper Heyford and Lakenheath.

The London SUNDAY TIMES said that, contrary to a secret agreement between Washington and London that five targets were to be bombed, the Americans arbitrarily increased their number by adding residential districts in Libyan cities.

The Italian defense minister concluded that the Americans had isolated themselves from their allies because of the raid on Libya. Even the office of the "Iron Lady", who played the unseemly role of an accomplice of the Washington state terrorists, is now trying to dissociate Britain from any future anti-Libyan ventures of the White House. The London SUNDAY TIMES today reports that Thatcher intends to refuse President Reagan's new request for permission to use the U.S. bases in Britain to deliver another strike at Libya.

Newspapers report that official spokesmen for the British prime minister's office admit that she is getting countless letters of protest and that people keep calling her office to voice outrage over Britain's complicity in U.S. banditry.

The world as a whole is growing more and more alarmed by its understanding of the outcome of Washington's policy of state terrorism, an offspring of Reagan's doctrine of "new globalism." Grenada fell victim to the USA a year and a half ago, Libya nowadays, and tomorrow any other country which refuses to bow to American diktat may become a target. No talk about the need "to fight terrorism" can give the U.S. Administration the right to act as an "international arbiter" and to substitute jungle law for the principles of international intercourse. Moreover, it is not terrorism, strongly denounced by the world community as a whole, that is at issue in this case.

Media's Chauvinism Seen

LD182213 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Vadim Lobachenko report from Washington; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] In these days following the bandit raid by U.S. aircraft on Libyan cities, material about it in newspapers and magazines and on television screens for the most part recalls well-illustrated military dispatches from the Pentagon, with appropriate commentaries. They are packed with images of the aircraft in flight, rockets being fired, and maps and plans showing the bombing raids against Libya.

The bellicose newspaper headlines and television captions here are typical: Tripoli Erupts; U.S. Hits Libya; Target Libya. The main U.S. papers seem to exude a cloud of chauvinism.

In this way they act as accomplices of official Washington, which, on the pretext of the struggle against terrorism, is whipping up a campaign of chauvinism in the country. The scale of the current hysteria may be judged by the mass production in the United States of new targets for shooting practice. These are made in the form of the figure of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the head of the sovereign state of Libya, apparently in order to whip up the anti-Libyan mood in the United States and prepare the population for new aggressive operations against Libya.

The pirate action of the Pentagon has caused pain in the hearts of honest Americans. A mass demonstration in the center of New York was held under the slogans, "Hands off Libya; We want peace!"

The U.S. aggressive actions are very dangerous, says Prof (Gerald Horan), an eminent U.S. scholar, and despite the chauvinist campaign in the country, a growing number of Americans understand that the Reagan administration has plunged the United States into a real foreign adventure, placing the peace and security of all mankind in jeopardy.

The so-called Reagan doctrine, prof (Gerald Horan) continues, is basically aimed at overthrowing any progressive government which is not to Washington's liking. In the New York district of Harlem, where you and I are now (Gerald Horan) notes, there are whole blocks of slums and ruined buildings. Tens of thousands of homeless people in New York sleep and live right in the street, while millions upon millions of dollars from the U.S. state budget are spent for purposes of war and destruction in Libya, Nicaragua, Afghanistan, and other countries. This is an insane policy, Professor (Horan) concludes, and the U.S. public will resolutely demand that it be changed.

U.S. 'Chauvinistic Intoxication' Cited

LD222320 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1908 GMT 22 Apr 86

[From "The World Today" program presented by Valeriy Korzin]

[Excerpts] Here is Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, with his children. [Video shows still of Al-Qadhdhafi with two children, one a small girl] The photograph was taken before the raid by the U.S. bombers; his little daughter died by their bombs. Al-Qadhdhafi's wife, whom you now see, talked to journalists without letting go of her crutch -- she is wounded.

[Video shows her sitting to speak, with two boys behind her] Dozens of people in the country were wounded as she was. Dozens of victims of the U.S. aggression are now in hospitals and clinics. These pictures cannot help but arouse feelings of compassion in any normal person for the victims of the attack and indignation at those who cold-bloodedly committed it.

They think differently in Washington, however. The U.S. Congress is seriously discussing a bill that would give the President the legal right to carry out an operation like the one carried out against Libya without having to consult Congress beforehand. One of the sponsors of this bill, Senator Jeremiah Denton, said that in the event of acts of state terrorism, this bill would even permit the killing of foreign heads of state. If Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi had died as a result of our strike, he said, this would have been in keeping with the aims of the bill. This is how the chauvinistic intoxication that has now overwhelmed the United States is developing.

In one of his recent speeches, Ronald Reagan recalled the words of Lincoln: Fellow citizens, we cannot turn our backs on history. Evidently, in intending to go down in history as an uncompromising fighter for U.S. interests, Reagan forgets that the laws of historical development are not dependent on U.S. Presidents. No bombing of a peaceful population, no infusions into counterrevolutionary units, no threats of subversive operations can overcome the aspiration of the people for freedom.

'Provocative' Moves Hit

LD210613 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Valentin Zorin commentary]

[Text] Several of my colleagues and I happened to talk last Saturday to a group of American political observers who were visiting Moscow. Small wonder that our positions disagreed on many issues, but statements by one of the American visitors just took me aback. Tom (Bethell), editor in chief of the Washington edition of HARPER's magazine, declared that in his opinion, any Soviet-American talks, including top-level talks, are unnecessary and useless. America should first gain unquestionable military superiority and only then think of negotiations. Attempting to amend this view held by the Washington journalist, Douglas (McArthur) Jr., who led the delegation of American journalists, started expiating on the benefits that could be derived from talks, especially top-level contacts.

As it often happens in Washington when some officials, including members of the administration, take a tough stand and others cover up by all manner of talk about the need of negotiations and of searching for mutually acceptable and just solutions, the method of the division of roles was used this time as well. So who of the two in Washington speaks for the administration? Those who are so keen at peace rhetoric or those who issue threats right and left? Developments of the last few days have given a clearcut answer to that question.

The world has become eyewitness these days of a whole chain of arrogant and provocative moves by the United States made in response to the Soviet Union's peace initiatives. These moves can be qualified in no other way than an attempt to frustrate the search for ways of improving the international climate, blocking positive trends and quenching hopes that have arisen as a result of the Geneva summit. One such move was the nuclear explosion in Nevada carried out by Washington in defiance of the call of many Americans and of the overwhelming majority of people all over the world to end all nuclear tests.

Another provocative move was America's military attack on little Libya. Americans are led to believe that Washington's illegal actions are part of the effort to combat international terrorism, but Washington has produced no proof showing Libya's involvement in the blast in the West Berlin discotheque or in any other terrorist acts. The Americans are expected to take for granted unsubstantiated statements made by the Washington administration on this. But one can recall similar statements made in the past which turned out to be either erroneous or, more often, deliberately false.

The campaign against terrorism is in this case only a coverup for the policy of state-sponsored terrorism known now as the policy of neoglobalism. In keeping with the doctrine of neoglobalism, Washington usurps for itself the right to punish or pardon whole states or nations at its own discretion. The world has not witnessed such practice since the days of the German Reich.

Some time ago the Soviet leadership warned the American Administration of the need of carefully weighing its actions everywhere, especially in regions lying in close proximity to Soviet borders. Washington, however, preferred to ignore these warnings, scorn the position of its allies and undertake actions seriously aggravating world tensions and enhancing the danger of war.

U.S. 'Piling Up Lies'

LD191759 Moscow TASS in English 1724 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 19 TASS -- Follows commentary by Boris Shabayev, TASS political news analyst:

A difficult question has been put to the U.S. delegation at the U.N. Security Council, which is currently discussing the question of the U.S. armed aggression against Libya, "Where are the proofs of your claims that Libya is responsible for 'international terrorism'? This is a reasonable question, the more so, that Libya has categorically rejected the American charges and officially condemned the acts of terrorism, in particular, the bomb explosion in a West Berlin discotheque, in which an American soldier was killed.

Instead of an answer, followed unintelligible and unconvincing specualation by the U.S. representatives, that would be appropriate, at its best, for lowgrade gutter press. But this is precisely the kind of an "argument", which Washington allegedly has at its disposal, about Libya's complicity in terrorism, by which they are trying to justify the monstrous crime perpetrated by the U.S. Airforce on direct orders of the White House -- a raid on unsuspecting and brightly lit Libyan cities. The bloody price of that crime was tens of people killed, including babies-in-arms, hundreds of injured inhabitants of Tripoli and Banghazi.

Washington, which found itself pilloried in face of a storm of wrath and indignation sweeping the whole planet, started piling up lies, trying to shift the blame for the crime on other people.

First, Mr. Bernard Kalb, a State Department spokesman, and after him, other Washington administration officials, began zealously speculating in the mass media on the need to resort to military measures against Libya through the fault of ... the Soviet Union, Moscow, they claim, did not respond to the request of the USA for assistance in preventing acts of terrorism, and Washington had nothing left to it, but lauch a "preemtive" strike.

Such is Washington's explanation for the crime. But the truth is that in answer to the U.S. request to the Soviet side the latter asked that concrete facts be furnished to support the charges made. Such facts have proved to be lacking. Hence, the answer could, naturally, be only one: The Soviet Union has always condemned and continues condemning terrorism in any of its manifestations, both individual and state-sponsored terrorism, has always advocated and continues advocating international cooperation in the effort to eliminater terrorism. But this should be done on the basis of the facts rather than inventions. In so doing one should not overlook the causes of terrorism, which is known to emerge where the rights of peoples and national dignity are crudely violated.

But maybe the USA simply did not wish to reveal to Moscow the sources of that information, and therefore did not produce any concrete facts? In that case what sort of information did Vernon Walters, who is known as an expert in clandestine operations, take to London, Paris and Rome? His aim was to get permission for the flight of U.S. aircraft loaded with bombs over the airspace of those countries in the raid on Libya. Could it be that he did not inform the U.S. allies in NATO about the facts? To all appearances, judging by the fact that Paris and Rome refused point blank to meet the U.S. demand, the White House emissary came to them empty-handed too.

Yet, elementary logic prompts that if Washington really had any concrete facts then, as Mr. Kalb himself noted with good reason, answering the inquisitive journalists, the explosion in the discotheque would have been prevented.

Criminals are known to be always willing to conceal every trace of their crime. But if such traces are too obvious, they always wish to decline their responsibility. Therefore, they in Washington are staging a fresh farce. But the most disquieting thing is that under the cover of inventions they are preparing for new bandit raids, as the American "hawks" have failed to achieve their aims.

Reagan Circumvents Congressmen

LD200907 Moscow TASS in English 0847 GMT 20 Apr 86

["White House Tries To Act in Circumvention of Congress" -- TASS Headline]

[Text] Washington April 20 TASS -- TASS correspondent Nikolay Turkatenko reports:

The attack by the U.S. Armed Forces on Libya, mounted on order from President Reagan, testifies to the growing danger of the United States being dragged into a new protracted war in circumvention of the country's supreme legislative authority. Many leading congressmen draw attention with alarm to this circumstance and demand that the administration scrupulously abide by the War Powers Act enacted after the United States' aggression in Vietnam suffered the fiasco with a view to preventing the President from making an individual decision related to war and peace.

The administration alleges that in ordering the "blitzkrieg strike" at Libya it didn't violate the War Powers Act since this law commits the administration to notify Congress about the involvement of U.S. Armed Forces in combat not later than in 48 hours after these actions are started and to halt them, if Congress fails, in a lapse of 90 days, to give its consent to their continuation. Conducting the strike against Libya, administration officials and supporters of the aggression against Libya in Congress contend, lasted only 40 minutes and, hence, the War Powers Act was purportedly not broken.

Nevertheless, a group of Democratic senators led by Robert Byrd, leader of the Democratic Minority, sent a message to President Reagan demanding that the administration refrain from taking in the future any actions involving the use of armed forces without preliminary consultation with Congress. The authors of the message suggest setting up a "consultative group" comprising 18 people, including the speaker of the House of Representatives, president of the Senate, the majority and minority leaders in both chambers of Congress, and also heads of the Senate and House committees on armed services, foreign affairs and intelligence. The members of the group should examine in advance all circumstances under which the U.S. Armed Forces can be committed to action.

Apart from Robert Byrd, the message was signed by Democrats leading officials of Senate committees on armed services, foreign relations and intelligence. Democrat Dante Fascell, chairman of the House Foreign Afrairs Committee and a co-author of the War Powers Act, announced that the committee led by him would hold hearing shortly on U.S. Administration's compliance with that law. He stressed that having ordered the raid on Libya, the President violated the act. Republican Mark Hatfield, chairman of the Senate Committee on Appropriations, levelled criticism at the administration's actions. Republican Richard Lugar, chairman of the Senate Foreign Relations Committee, who usually unreservedly supports the administration, demanded that the President "consider" plans of military operations against Libya jointly with the congressmen.

With a view to neutralizing congressmen's attempts to limit the administration's freedom of action in questions of direct use of the U.S. Armed Forces abroad, the White House engineered moves to submit to both chambers of Congress a bill whose adoption would in actual fact cancel congress' control of any kind over the administration's actions. This bill was reported to have been tabled at the Senate on instructions from President Reagan by Republican Majority Leader Robert Dole.

Broader Powers Considered

LD190202 Moscow TASS in English 0741 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 18 TASS -- TASS correspondent Igor Ignatyev reports:

Supporters of the White House on the Capitol Hill are in a hurry to ensure for the U.S. Administration legislatively a free hand for launching new bandit actions against other countries, similar to the recent U.S. Air Force raids on Libya.

To this end, a group of senators and congressmen from the ruling party tabled at both chambers a bill empowering the President to give orders, without any consultations or preliminary notification, on carrying out punitive operation, including armed strikes against any country, on the plea of "combatting terrorism." The AP agency stresses that this bill empowers the President to sanction any actions, including political assassinations of the leaders of foreign countries.

In other words, state terrorism, which has become the core of the U.S. Administration's foreign policy is this to be elevated to the status of law.

The proposed measure will, as a matter of fact, eliminate the provisions of the American legislation, which limit to a degree the launching of aggressive actions not only against those whom official Washington brands as "terrorists". But even whole states. The latest events in Libya, Congressman Joe Barton openly said, have demonstrated that the laws in effect now restrict the President's powers for taking speedy actions. In their ardour to play up to the White House, its supporters on the Capitol Hill have gone so far as to undermine by their initiatives the functions of the congress itself, which has long been the administration's objective. George Shultz, U.S. secretary of state, who poses as the main "theoretician" of the policy of "combatting terrorism" described as "impermissible luxury" the constitutional powers of the Congress preventing the White House from taking determined actions on foreign policy issues, above all, when it concerns the use of armed force.

The aggressive action of the United States against Libya and the attempt made now to legalise that crime and pave the ground for future crimes are proof that Washington is turning a deaf ear to the demands of the peoples of the world for ending the policy of aggression and brigandage, is again preparing to flout the sovereignty of other states.

Attack Violates UN Charter

LD191715 Moscow World Service in English 1510 GMT 19 Apr 86

[(Nataliya Zakharova) commentary]

[Excerpts] Speaking in the White House recently, President Reagan praised highly the unprovoked bandit raid on Libya. He portrayed that act of state sponsored terrorism as a display of America's determination to fight for freedom and legality, claiming that Washington's actions stand in conformity with the United Nations Charter. Here to comment on this statement is Soviet expert in international law, (Nataliya Zakharova):

[Begin (Zakharova) recording in Russian with superimposed English translation] By sending its planes carrying lethal cargoes to attack Libyan territory, (Nataliya Zakharova) is saying the United States has grossly violated both the United Nations Charter and many underlying principles of international law. In his speech the American President kept referring to the United Nations Charter, that major international document designed to help promote peace and international security. But point four of Article Two of that document states that in their international relations all members should refrain from threatening to use force or from the use of force against any other country. The American Administration has competely ignored that commitment. It has also ignored point three of the same article, obliging members of the United Nations organization to settle their international disputes by peaceful means in such a manner that international peace and security and justice are not endangered.

I would like to emphasize that these provisions of the United Nations Charter are reaffirmed in the declaration adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 1970 and in the Helsinki Final Act of the European Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe of which the United States is a cosignatory. Washingtion's actions against Libya therefore cannot be qualified otherwise than as a flagrant act of treachery and of mockery of international law norms.

The heavy responsibility for all these gross violations of international legality and order is certain to be redoubled by the consequences that they may lead to. As the general secretary of the Soviet Communist Party, Mikhail Gorbachev, has put it, the United States has again posed itself as the chief culprit guilty of escalation of world tensions and of playing irresponsibly with destinies of millions of people for the sake of satisfying its imperial ambitions. [end recording]

Academic Questions Legality

LD220943 Moscow TASS in English 0846 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- The military actions of the USA against Libya are a logical follow-up to the U.S. policy aimed at forcing a change on the home and foreign policies of progressive states, and, if possible, toppling their leaders, a TASS correspondent was told by Gleb Starushenko, deputy director of the Institute of Africa of the Academy of Sciences of the USSR. Since the overthrow of political regimes from the outside is unlawful, the U.S. Administration is out to legalize the "right" to intervention, the prominent Soviet lawyer said.

The aggression against Grenada, the growing interference in Nicaragua's home affairs and the attack against Libya are all links of the U.S. policy of state terrorism.

Another method of undermining the international norms is through their distorted interpretation. President Reagan is trying to present the attack against Libya is an act of self-defence, albeit from the legal viewpoint this is a groundless argument.

In accordance with the definition of that phenomenon, which is recognized by all states, including the USA, aggression is interpreted as first use by a state of armed force against the sovereignty, territorial inviolability or political independence of another state (Article 1 and 2 of U.N. General Assembly Resolution 3314 /XXIX). It follows from this that the right to self-defence envisaged by Article 51 of the U.N. Charter belongs to a state, against which another state was the first to use armed force. Since the USA was not a target of an attack by Libya's armed forces, and neither the sovereignty, nor the territory or political independence of the United States were threatened, the USA had no right to self-defence in that case. It is precisely Washington which launched an act of aggression and was the first to use armed force against Libya, the scholar explained.

Deplorably, acts of international terrorism are getting ever more frequent, the scholar said. And responsible for that is above all the United States. Its policy of institutionalized terrorism is a component and most dangerous part of international terrorism. Moreover, by crudely flouting the rights of other states and peoples, humiliating their national dignity and placing them in an extremely difficult position, for example, Nicaragua, the USA far from suppressing is, on the contrary, encouraging acts of terrorism against sovereign states.

Decision To Bomb Described

LD202240 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Apr 86

[From the "International Panorama" program, presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] The past week has been an alarming one. It has confirmed once again just how tense, contradictory, and full of contrast is the world in which we live. Just compare the beginning of the week -- the United States bombs Tripoli and Banghazi; Reagan continues the offensive against international law and order, against the Geneva accord -- and the end of the week -- the Soviet Union continues its peace offensive. Speaking in Berlin, Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev proposed, in addition to our previous initiatives, that all components of ground forces and tactical air forces in Europe, and also nuclear weapons of operational-tactical designation, be considerably reduced.

I am not going to dwell on the factual side of the Libyan events; you are very well aware of them. And you are also aware of the assessment given by our government, which resolutely condemned this criminal action by the White House. But how did people in America react to this deed of the Reagan administration? Let us listen first of all to Vladimir Dunayev:

[Dunayev] Somehow they happened to coincide -- the week the cherry trees blossomed and the week of preparations for the piracy in Libya. One thing was on the surface -- an annual holiday that was starting in Washington -- while the other was hidden, and hidden very deeply indeed. At the time that this parade to mark the week the cherry trees blossom was taking place just hours remained before the attack on Libya. Already prepared for take-off were American squadrons with experience in carpet-bombing of Hanoi, with the object of diving low over Tripoli and Banghazi. There was a holiday in Washington, but American servicemen -- not these who are marching in the parade, they are for domestic adoration -- but those in the Pentagon, on the bases and aircraft carriers; they picked out on their charts those parts of the Libyan cities that were to be wiped from the face of the earth.

Yes, while we were filming this parade we did not know what was going to happen the next day, we did not know the kind of muscle display these American personages were going to put on before the whole world, prepared as they were to transfer their cruel games from the American screen to expanses of land on earth. At the very moment the indispensible, inevitable, colorful parade that goes back 200 years was moving along Constitution Avenue in the very middle of Washington, there was General Washington's column, made up of Americans who have fought for freedom.

How long ago all that was! Now there is nothing but the name of the capital to remind one of those times. It has fallen to few countries to outrage in such a way their own history and their own pride, to become the suppressors of the freedom of other peoples, to attack the independence of neighboring countries and countries far away. The cherry blossom week and the week of preparations for invasion went hand-in-hand. At the very beginning of the week, while they were choosing beauty queens from each of the 50 states for this parade and the festive procession along Constitution Avenue it was already known that two aircraft carriers, the Coral Sea and America,were approaching the shores of Libya. On Wednesday, while they were choosing the best bands for this parade in a theater on 15th Street, President Reagan made his final decision to punish Libya. But they did not think that the two aircraft carriers were enough for the bombing of Libya's cities. It would take 10 days to call up a third aircraft carrier. And the White House was very impatient to see the flames of Tripoli. It was decided to use aircraft based in Britain -- after all, they are very good for night bombing operations.

The attack could have taken place by the time of the cherry blossom parade. It remained only to get Margaret Thatcher's agreement. Eighteen bombers will take off with cargo for the women and children of Libya. Sixteen will return to base. One will make a forced landing in Spain. One will be shot down. In London they hesitated. There they were also afraid that involvement in the piracy would cost them dearly. But they were not bold enough to say no to the Americans. It was on this very Sunday when this parade was taking place, when the clowns here were entertaining the public, that agreement from Britain came. It was midday in Washington and evening in London: In Tripoli night was falling. The last night for dozens of Libyans, who on the following night would be hit by American bombs and missiles aimed by lasers.

I do not believe that the Americans with whom I watched this festival could wish death upon Libyan children. The day of the parade was the last sunny day in Washington. There is thunder and it's raining here now. But Americans are going to the White House and to the Lincoln Memorial to preserve the honor and the dignity of America, to protest their government's terrorism and the fumes of American chauvinism.

And I do believe that these Americans, who watched and took part in the cherry blossom parade, I believe that they, too, are now at the White House carrying protest placards in their hands. Because a blossoming cherry tree cannot be betrothed to high explosives and ash; it cannot be betrothed to death.

There is only one thing that hurts, the fact that it is from this town, Washington, where they know how to celebrate and have so much fun, that squadrons are now being sent out to different parts of the globe; and the fact that it is from here, from the White House which we are now approaching and where this parade is heading, the fact that it is from the White House that orders are issued which are followed by exploding bombs and which make living on this planet more alarming.

U.S. Stand 'Utterly Cynical'

LD181403 Moscow TASS in English 1253 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 18 TASS -- Official Washington's current stand in connection with the act of terrorism against Libya can be described as being utterly cynical. They in Washington are denying the obvious truth and totally disregarding the tragic consequences of the U.S. bandit attack against that sovereign state.

Reagan as before believes that he was absolutely right in acting against Libya, newsmen were frankly told by Larry Speakes, presidential deputy press secretary. In answer to one of the questions, the spokesman for the White House had the insolence to say that the USA "knew nothing" about the death of the eighteen-month-old daughter of the leader of the Libyan revolution Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi as a result of the raid of the U.S. bombers. We did not see her identity papers, he said.

The CBS television company said that the losses of civilian life in Libya had been actually "planned" by the Pentagon in advance. As the NBC said, the USA may again strike against Libya. New facts have been learned that one of the main aims of the bombing of Tripoli was to kill Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi in contravention of American laws officially banning attempts on the life of foreign leaders. In that connection the ABC showed sequences of a videofilm of the attack against Libya, which was issued by the Pentagon. One of the sequences clearly shows the building of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi's headquarters and a tent standing next to it, in which as is believed, the Libyan leader stayed during the raid. An F-111 fighter-bomber dropped on that place a bomb weighing more than 900 kg, the ABC said.

The newspaper WASHINGTON POST says in this connection today that the bombing raid against Libya was planned in the hope that Al-Qadhdhafi would be killed. The main target of the attack was his command post. A statement to this effect was made by well-informed representatives of the administration. We hoped that we would get at him, said one of the administration's officials, who took part in preparing the raid. Moreover, according to the newspaper, the administration prepared in advance the draft statement describing Al-Qadhdhafi's expected death as "accidental".

Now that the plans of the USA to kill the leader of the Libyan revolution have proved to be a failure, Washington has launched a campaign of psychological warfare in order to try to destabilise the situation in that country. This has been admitted by Secretary of State George Shultz. The CBS quoted him as telling reporters on Thursday night that as he hoped the American raids would result in the overthrow of Al-Qadhdhafi. The newspaper WASHINGTON POST quotes in that connection a spokesman for the administration as admitting that the aim of "clandestine operations" launched by the USA against Libya is to overthrow the Libyan leader. At the same time the American observers unanimously admit that Washington's aggressive stand against Libya is not shared by an overwhelming majority of the West European allies of the United States.

Attack Aimed To Instigate Coup

LD210339 Moscow in English to North America 2200 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Igor Paulov commentary]

[Text] As President Reagan made his way to a helicopter on Friday a question was shouted to him about whether the U.S. Air Force had had orders to kill Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. We weren't out to kill anybody, the President replied. Our observer Igor Pavlov makes this comment:

About 15 minutes after the raids were over, the government-controlled Voice of America began broadcasting an editorial with an appeal to the Libyan people to revolt and overthrow Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Radio stations are supposed to broadcast information and opinions, not appeals to revolt. The VOA editorial was part of a carefully planned operation or, rather, a military coup d'etat that the U.S. planned to engineer in a sovereign nation, not just what it called a reprisal. As more and more details are being disclosed, it's also becoming clear that the raids were not a near flawless surgical attack that would go down in American military annals. One F-111 was shot down and two pilots were killed. Aborted missions were not due to the pilots' restraint or humanism but to technical failures and equipment malfunctions. The heavy civilian casualties were not a result of inadvertent bombing. They were caused by the flyers' desire to get out of the heavy anti-aircraft fire unscathed.

On Monday congressional leaders were notified about the impending attack. They were told that chances to kill Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi were slim and that therefore the attack was not a personal revenge but a political necessity. However, the news that Al-Qadhdhafi's children were killed and wounded had made some lawmakers doubt that they were told the truth. Hatred of Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi dates back to the time when he put an end to the U.S. military presence in Libya and nationalized American property after the 1969 revolutions. There have been several attempts on his life by Israel and the United States.

We weren't out to kill anybody, said President Reagan on Friday. On that same day there was a funeral in Tripoli and the victims of the attack were buried outside the city in a cemetery reserved for war heroes. Clenched fists raised in anger were a convincing reply to Washington's state-supported terrorism.

Missiles Deployed Before Raid

LD191026 Moscow TASS in English 0914 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Kuwait April 19 TASS -- The United States put its nuclear missiles in three West European countries on combat alert last Tuesday prior to its aggression against Libya, KUNA news agency reported from London. It quoted John Milner, a spokesman for the British Campaign for Nuclear Disarmament, as telling its correspondent that peace campaigners in Britain, Italy and West Germany had watched those deployments.

In England, missiles were moved to take up positions in Salisbury Plain, a thinly-populated area 75 kilometers south-west of the base at Greenham Common. A planned British Army exercise had to be urgently called off to allow the deployment of the U.S. missiles.

Nuclear-tipped Pershing missiles sited in Ulm and Mutlangen in West Germany were deployed in the course of a NATO exercise under the heavy guard of U.S. troops several hours before the U.S. aerial attack on Libya. Missiles were put in a state of combat readiness also in Comiso, Italy. All those deployments were carried out simultaneously in the three countries, Milner said.

'Time Fragmentation' Bombs Dropped

LD210420 Moscow TASS in English 1100 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 20 TASS -- TASS correspondent Vladimir Bogachev and Georgiy Shelenkov report:

Foreign journalists have seen with their own eyes the falsity of the Pentagon's assertions when they went to the area of the international Tripoli Airport which was subjected to U.S. barbarous bombing.

It is not military structures but peaceful Libyan villages that were the targets of the bombing raid. Bomb craters, collapsed walls of utility structures and dwellings, trees cut by bomb fragments and brought down by a blasting wave -- such was the Shavat village, located near the airport, seen by the journalists. U.S. bombs and shells fell on gardens and orange plantations. There are civilian casualties.

An official Libyan representative has said that a time fragmentation bomb went off in the area of the airport yesterday, hitting three persons, among them two children. Another 17 such trap bombs were discovered in that area, dropped by American aircraft in the course of the barbarous raid on Libyan towns.

Weinberger Praises Thatcher

LD191549 Moscow Domestic Service in Russian 1100 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] The Pentagon intends to use the U.S. military bases in Great Britain as it sees fit, and London should be prepared for the United States of America to again consider it necessary to use its armed forces deployed in Britain for practical purposes. Caspar Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defense, said this in essence during an interview which was relayed to Western capitals via a communications satellite. The military agreement with Great Britain, he noted, envisages the use of U.S. Armed Forces in Britain not only in such cases as the action against Libya, but in other similar situations. Praising the Thatcher government for its cooperation in the organization of the raid on Libya, Weinberger confirmed that in fact the majority of the U.S. allies in NATO were not informed by the United States of the timing and other details of the raid on Tripoli and Banghazi.

Differences With Allies Admitted

LD191455 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0956 GMT 19 Apr 86

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Shalnev]

[Text] Washington, 19 Apr (TASS) -- Caspar Weinberger, U.S. secretary of defense, has admitted in an interview granted to a group of West European journalists that there exist serious disagreements between the United States and the majority of its allies in Western Europe on the question of policy regarding Libya.

In addition, the Pentagon chief made it clear that Washington will continue to strive for the unconditional support of its allies for its future actions against the Libyan Jamahiriyah. It therefore follows, from the utterances of the head of the U.S. military department, that after the barbaric bombardment of Libya the United States now intends to introduce a wide-scale economic and trade blockade of that North African state.

As is known, Washington's previous attempts to establish such a blockade turned, in fact, into a fiasco: Many West European countries refused to be led by the Reagan administration.

It is possible that Washington may now resort to blackmailing its allies in its efforts to get them to halt their business ties with Libya; the administration is threatening to carry out new raids against the Jamahariyah if the Europeans don't agree to "these measures of pressure" with regard to Tripoli. The probability of such a development was partly confirmed by C. Weinberger himself, who said in the interview that Reagan would not have subjected Libya to bombardment if effective economic sanctions were in effect.

U.S. Miscalculated World Opinion

LD182158 Moscow TASS in English 2134 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 18 TASS -- By TASS Political News Analyst Boris Shabayev:

When sending its warplanes to bring down a lethal cargo of bombs on Libya, the White House clarly hoped that the "surgical operation" of that kind will run smoothly both in military and political terms.

It clearly hoped that nations and governments, especially those in the "Third World", would shudder with horror, defeated by the roar of jet bombers and the sound of explosions, and would follow Washington's instructions more obediently after that.

However, it is obvious that Washington strategists, both military and political, have miscalculated.

The bombing strikes failed to bring Libya to its knees, and the whole wide world rose in a single impulse of anger and indignation.

As soon as the news about the atrocious crime of U.S. imperialism reached New Delhi, the venue of a meeting of the Coordinating Bureau on nonaligned countries, its delegates strongly condemned what they called a shameful, impudent and unprovoked act of aggression staged by the U.S.

A group of nonaligned countries representing Africa, Asia and Latin America in the United Nations Security Council submitted a draft resolution which strongly denounced U.S. actions violating the United Nations Charter and norms of international law and demanded that Washington immediately stop all attacks and threats of using armed force.

The Organization of African Unity strongly protested against an impudent and contemptible breach of international law by the United States.

We mentioned here only a few collective protests of nonaligned countries: it would be simply impossible to list all individual ones.

However, it deserves mention that all the statements made in protest against the U.S. move regarded the criminal act staged by the United States not as an "isolated" case, and surely not as a "pre-emptive" strike at "terrorism."

Washington dealt a pre-emptive strike at the cause of the world peace, at hopes and positive tendencies that came into existence as a result of the Geneva meeting. The Nonaligned Movement regarded the bandit raid on Libya precisely from that standpoint.

The preamble of the said draft resolution of the United Nations Security Council emphasized that the armed attacks of the United States on Libyan cities posed a threat to international peace and security.

At that crucial moment when the reckless actions of the U.S. Administration are pushing the world to a dangerous brink it is inadmissible to remain passive with regard to such actions, (?for) the aggressor surely hopes for this kind of reaction when it claims the role of an "international judge" for itself and replaces the recognized principles of international relations with jungle law.

An active stand of the Nonaligned Movement on that matter which is of paramount importance for safeguarding international peace and upholding the fundamental norms of the United Nations Charter and international law bears witness to the political maturity of the movement and its sense of responsibility for the future of mankind.

World Reaction Noted

LD202239 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1400 GMT 20 Apr 86

[From the "International Panorama" program presented by Aleksandr Bovin]

[Text] Voices of protest have run out and are ringing out. But a majority of Americans at all levels of the social structure support Reagan, often with reservations, but they give their support. Let me give typical statements from two newspapers. Here is the San Francisco CHRONICLE: It is not easy to support a military strike against another nation, but it would seem that it is the only way of convincing Libya's military dictator that he cannot direct terrorist attacks on U.S. targets throughout the world without paying a high price for this. And THE LOS ANGELES TIMES: The events of the recent past show that vengeance breeds vengeance. There is nothing left for us and for all Americans to do other than hope that the escalation of terrorism can be halted by the air raid.

Unfortunately history gives no guarantees that these hopes will be fulfilled. And this note of alarm, that there is no guarantee, sounds loudly even in the camp of those supporting the action. It is a contradiction between emotion and reason, if you like. Emotion gives rise to applause. So what, they have taken their revenge; they have shown their strength and their resolve. But reason says that the bombing of Libyan cities strengthens anti-U.S. feeling and is liable to give rise to retaliatory action. But on this occasion emotion is clearly stronger than reason. This is not surprising. Overall, Reagan's move into the White House and the whole Reagan phenomenon has been brought about not just by neoconservative feeling but by chauvinistic and blind patriotic feeling as a result of the wave that swept America at the beginning of the eighties.

Now let us turn to the allies. The United States was supported clearly and unambiguously only by Britain, Canada, and Israel. The other countries in one way or another expressed their disapproval. Of course Washington knew about these feelings in Western Europe. On Monday, a few hours before the bombing, the Common Market foreign ministers called on all sides to show restraint but the White House did not deem it necessary to comply with this recommendation. And the WESTFAELISCHE RUNDSCHAU in the FRG writes: The night bombing of the Libyan cities is adventurist in the highest degree; it is a senseless and dangerous enterprise. The leading Western power has thereby quite simply spat on all the doubts of its European allies. Moreover, the insufficiently energetic position of the West Europeans against possible aggression by Washington has intensified even more the U.S. intentions to carry out its plan.

And here are two more interesting extracts, this time from Japanese newspapers. MAINICHI writes that one result of the escalation of military activity might be greater distrust of U.S. diplomacy by Western countries. It ought to be known that the West does not consider it possible to conquer terrorism by military vengeance. Such tactics, the newspaper writes, merely intensify the vicious circle. And here in more specific terms is the TOKYO SHIMBUN: The historic roots of terrorism in the Middle East are to be found in the conflict between the Arab countries and Israel and in the fact that the Palestinian problem has not been solved. The way towards eradicating terrorism is in a constructive settlement of the Middle East problems. A thought that is perfectly correct, but evidently one that is too complicated for the Washington politicians. They prefer simpler solutions which rely upon the tradition of power politics and the mailed fist. Evidently Vietnam counts for little with the Americans, Iran counts for little, so too does the Bay of Pigs: they have been forgotten, they have stagnated, or whatever. And so once again they are starting to wave their fists.

It is interesting, I have received a lot of letters and there have been many telephone calls of late, particularly following the appearance of the U.S. ships off the shores of the Crimea: What is happening? people write and ask. How come the Americans can behave in an impudent and crude way? We, too, ought to be banging the table with our fists. I understand completely those comrades, but let us think this out together. Do we have to use those rules of the game that are the very ones the Americans are trying to impose on us? Do we have to rise to these provocations? Let us recall that not so long ago the Americans celebrated their 200th anniversary as an independent state. Our statehood goes back for more than 1000 years. Our historical experience is much richer, we are five times as old, and we have a far richer experience in handling international affairs. And naturally we must be more clever than the Americans, more restrained and more responsible in our behavior. You can imagine, Comrade Gorbachev said in Berlin, what would be left of the human race and its civilization if the Soviet Union acted in a similar way to the United States in the world arena.

That is the main thing, comrades. We are very strong. It is difficult even to imagine how strong we are. Our strength when multiplied by reason, our strength which naturally moves in step with reason, is directed toward halting man's slide towards nuclear disaster, to halt the slide and not to nudge it forward. And this, I repeat, is the main thing.

Arab Condemnation Cited

LD190142 Moscow TASS in English 0710 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Beirut April 18 TASS -- Many Lebanese cities have been a scene of strikes and demonstrations in protest against the U.S. attack against Libya. In Sidon, Tripoli, Ba'albekk and Beirut demonstrators carried posters sayings: "USA -- focus of international terrorism". Walid Junblatt, chairman of Lebanon's Progressive Socialist Party, and M. Sa'd, general secretary of the People's Nasirite Organisation, addressed telegrams to Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, the leader of the Libyan revolution, condemning the criminal actions of the USA and declarating support for the people and leadership of the Jamahiriyah. Isam al-Mahayri, chairman of the Party Nationaliste Syrian of Lebanon, said that the U.S. "big stick" policy will not intimidate those who are resolved to uphold their right and national dignity.

The USA is impudently flouting the U.N. Charter and the declaration of human rights. It is high time for the Arabs to understand that Washington is their main enemy, says the statement by the Lebanese Writers Union.

Damascus April 18 TASS -- The Syrian working class calls the Arabs for further strengthening their staunchness in face of the aggressive designs of reaction, the statement by the General Federation of Labour Unions of Syria, said.

The National Committee of the Peace Champions of Syria described the actions of the USA as a crime flouting the basic norms of international law. The aggression against the Libyan Jamahiriyah, the statement by the committee says, has once again exposed the real stand of the White House, which is openly hostile to the peoples upholding their legitimate striving for independence and sovereignty.

The attack against the Libyan Jamahiriyah, says the statement by the Arab Socialist Union Party, is convincing evidence of the policy of state terrorism pursued by the U.S. Administration in the international arena. The militaristic ambitions of the Washington expansionists are truly boundless.

Cairo April 18 TASS -- Washington's aggression against Libya has been one of the manifestations of its policy of neoglobalism directed at heightening tensions in the world and ensuring world domination, says the statement by the Progressive Youth Union of Egypt.

Rabat April 18 TASS -- U.S. imperialism's criminal actions contravene the generally accepted norms of relations between peoples and states, are based on "jungle law" and violence, says the communique issued here by the Political Bureau of the Moroccan Progressive Socialist Party. The U.S. aggression against Libya is spearheaded against all Arab countries, all peoples fighting for freedom, for strengthening peace, against imperialism and neocolonialism.

Kuwait April 18 TASS -- Finance and economics minister of the Arab states condemned the U.S. aggression against Libya and demanded strict sanctions against Washington for the barbarous bombing raids on Libyan cities, says the statement issued here. It was adopted by the Arab ministers at a meeting in Kuwait.

Damascus April 18 TASS -- Mass protest demonstrations have been held in the Israeli-occupied West Bank of the Jordan River, the Syrian SANA news agency said. The participants stigmatized the American aggressors and demanded an end to the hostile intrigues of imperialism and Zionism against the Arab peoples.

Sudan Condemns Attack

LD180104 Moscow TASS in English 0924 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] Cairo April 18 TASS -- Sudanese Foreign Minister Ibrahim Taha Ayyub has expressed his country's outrage at the U.S. armed attack on Libya.

He told the U.S. ambassador in Khartoum, MENA news agency reported, that the Sudanese Government had decided to recall its ambassador from Washington following the U.S. act of aggression.

MENA also reported that the Trade Union of Sudanese Oil Workers had refused to supply fuel to U.S. ships and aircraft in protest against U.S. aggression.

Kabul April 18 TASS -- The Central Council of the Supreme Jirga (Assembly) of Tribes and the Supreme Council of Ulemas and clergymen of Democratic Afghanistan have condemned U.S. barbarous aggression.

In their statements they said that the United States, flouting all norms and principles of international law and the U.N. Charter, had launched another aggression against the entire Moslem world.

The statements expressed solidarity with the Libyan people's struggle against the intrigues of international imperialists and hit out at the Reagan administration's policy of state-backed terrorism.

Cairo April 18 TASS -- Egypt's People's Assembly has issued a statement here, censuring U.S. aggression against the Libyan people as a gross violation of the U.N. Charter.

The Egyptian people declared once again, it said, that armed force could not and should not be used as a means of settling international conflicts. Egypt, its People's Assembly said, denounced Washington's act of piracy against the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

REAGAN INDICATES U.S. PLANNING ATTACK ON NICARAGUA

LD230706 Moscow TASS in English 0648 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Washington April 23 TASS -- The United States is ready to launch the same bandit attack against Nicaragua as it did against Libya. President Reagan made an explicit statement to this effect in his remarks to the attendees at the "Heritage Foundation" dinner on Tuesday.

The "Heritage Foundation" is an ultra-reactionary organization, for which the White House has the greatest esteem.

Reagan made the same charges against the Sandinist Government of Nicaragua of "support for international terrorism", which official Washington was zealously making in the course of a few weeks prior to the bombing raid on Libya. As was the case with Libya, the President could not cite a single fact to "prove" such claims. Yet he firmly declared that the United States would not permit building "a Libya on our doorstep". The significance of last week's events should not be left unclear, President Reagan meaningfully added, implying the raid on Libya. Simultaneously, he reaffirmed that his administration would do its utmost to get from Congress another 100 million dollars for "aid" to the terrorist contras gangs.

ARKHIPOV VIEWS ECONOMIC, SCI-TECH TIES WITH PRC

PM191911 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 19 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Yu. Savenkov interview with I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, under the "IZVESTIYA Interview" rubric: "USSR-CHINA: On the Basis of the Principles of Equality and Mutual Benefit"]

[Text] The first session of the Soviet-Chinese Commission for Economic, Trade, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation was held in Beijing recently. The sides noted substantial progress in these spheres recently and expressed mutual confidence that the results of the session will give new impetus to the trend toward the expansion of mutually advantageous cooperation between the USSR and the PRC.

IZVESTIYA correspondent Yu. Savenkov spoke with I.V. Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, about the galvanization of Soviet-Chinese trade and economic relations and prospects for scientific and technical ties.

[Savenkov] The 27th CPSU Congress again confirmed the Soviet Union's consistent aspiration to improve relations with the PRC and to expand diverse cooperation between the two countries in the interests of the Soviet and Chinese peoples. The recently completed first session of the Soviet-Chinese Commission for Economic, Trade, Scientific, and Technical Cooperation evidently played its role. What do you, as chairman of the Soviet part of the commission, see as the main result of its work?

[Arkhipov] First, a few words about the commission itself. It was created in accordance with the 28 December 1984 agreement between the USSR and PRC Governments. The commission monitors the progress of the fulfillment of agreements and accords between the countries in the field of economic, trade, scientific, and technical cooperation; prepares proposals aimed at its stable development; and examines measures to further expand this cooperation. There is an agreement that the national parts of the commission are headed by deputy heads of government. The chairman of the Chinese part is Li Peng, member of the CPC Central Committee Politburo and Central Committee Secretariat and vice premier of the PRC State Council.

At the first session we discussed a broad circle of problems in Soviet-Chinese trade, economic, scientific, and technical ties; progress in the implementation of the agreement on economic and technical cooperation in the construction and remodeling of industrial projects in the PRC; and results of Soviet-Chinese trade in 1985 and its development prospects.

The sides noted with satisfaction the continuous growth of trade and economic relations between the Soviet Union and China, including border trade, will be further developed on the basis of the long-term trade agreement for 1986-1990. Here it was stressed that we have considerable reserves for expanding trade above the levels envisaged by this agreement.

"Thinking about the future, it can be said that the reserves for cooperation between the USSR and China are enormous. They are great because such cooperation is in both countries' interests, because the most precious things for our peoples -- socialism and peace -- are indivisible," the CPSU Central Committee Political Report delivered by M.S. Gorbachev to the 27th congress stated. It was this assessment that guided the Soviet delegation at the commission session.

I would like to stress that the discussion was businesslike and constructive in character and the atmosphere was benevolent.

As a result, we formulated joint decisions and determined new paths and forms of cooperation in trade, economic, scientific, and technical cooperation; education; and some other fields in the interests of deepening and expanding businesslike cooperation between the USSR and the PRC.

We see the main result of the commission's work as the fact that a course has been set that is aimed at ensuring the stable development of cooperation on the basis of the principles of equality and mutual benefit and transferring it onto a long-term planned basis. All this is in keeping with the fundamental interests of the USSR and the PRC and will promote the improvement of the international situation, the growth of socialism's role in world affairs, and the strengthening of the cause of peace and stability in Asia.

[Savenkov] Trade and economic relations between the USSR and the PRC have passed through various stages of development (the fifties, sixties, and seventies). What distinguishes the eighties?

[Arkhipov] In trade and the sphere of economic, scientific, and technical ties between the USSR and the PRC there have been periods of rapid development, and there have also been periods of decline. After the formation of the PRC in 1949 these ties became more diverse and developed actively, reaching their peak in the late fifties. During this period the average annual volume of trade turnover reached approximately R2 billion (in the prices prevailing during those years). Economic and technical cooperation developed fruitfully and extensively. The economic cooperation projects included over 200 enterprises in various sectors of the Chinese national economy. Many thousands of Soviet experts with different specialities worked at PRC enterprises. Thousands of Chinese specialists underwent training in the Soviet Union (in academic institutions and at enterprises). Cooperation between scientific establishments was widely developed, and we also exchanged scientific achievements.

During the second half of the sixties trade and economic relations and scientific and technical ties were practically reduced to zero.

What is characteristic of the eighties? The galvanization of Soviet-Chinese trade, economic, scientific, and technical relations. It began in 1983-1984. The signing in 1984-1985 of a number of aggreements on cooperation in these fields was of great importance.

[Savenkov] What are the dynamics of Soviet-Chinese trade in the eighties?

[Arkhipov] Whereas the volume of trade in 1983 totaled R490 million, in 1984 it had reached close to R1 billion, and in 1985 it exceeded R1.6 billion. A further increase in trade turnover is planned this year.

[Savenkov] Thus, recent years have witnessed an appreciable galvanization of trade between our countries. Name some of the commodities (imports and exports), please. A few words about border trade.

[Arkhipov] The agreement on trade turnover and payments in 1986-1990 (the first time such an agreement has been signed, incidentally) envisages a trade turnover of R12 billion in the 5-year plan. There a volume of trade on the order of R3 billion is planned for 1990. As you can see, the dynamic nature of trade is indisputable.

Now, about the range of commodities. The predominant place in Soviet exports is held by machines, diverse industrial equipment, and means of transport, including trucks and passenger cars (around 40,000 in 1985). Soviet Volgas and Zhigulis can be seen on the streets of Chinese cities. We supply aviation equipment. Incidentally, Soviet IL-62 aircraft, including some belonging to the Chinese airline, fly the Moscow-Beijing route.

At the end of last year the IL-86 wide-bodied Soviet passenger aircraft carried out successful demonstration flights in China. It is not ruled out that soon it will also be seen in the skies over China. The USSR also exports ferrous and nonferrous metals, timber materials, chemical products, and other commodities.

The PRC supplies the Soviet Union with products which are essential for the national economy -- tungsten concentrate, flurospar, corn, soybeans meat products, cotton textiles, knitwear and clothing, tea, and other products.

Incidentally, at the commission session we discussed proposals for increasing trade turnover between the countries during the current 5-year plan in comparison with the levels envisaged by the long-term agreement.

As for border trade, although the volume is comparatively small it contributes its own specific color to the palette of our trade and economic ties. Trade has resumed between Khabarovsk and Maritime Krays and Amur and Chita Oblasts on the Soviet side and Heilongjian Province and the Inner Mongolian Autonomous Region on the Chinese side; agreement has also been reached on trade between the Soviet Central Asian republics, Kazakhstan, and some RSFSR oblasts and the Xinjiang-Uygur Autonomous Region of the PRC.

[Savenkov] The commission examined the possibilities of bilateral cooperation in the construction and remodeling of industrial projects. Which ones, precisely? In what is this cooperation reflected?

[Arkhipov] An agreement on economic and technical cooperation in the construction of industrial projects in the PRC was signed in Moscow last year. Cooperation is envisaged in the construction of 7 new projects and the remodeling of 17 projects built in the PRC with the Soviet Union's assistance in the fifties in such sectors as the power industry, ferrous and nonferrous metallurgy, machine building, the coal and chemical industries, transport, and others.

Here are a few examples. The projects planned for remodeling include the metallurgical combines in Anshan, Baotou, and Uhan and the bearing and tractor plants in Loyang. The new projects include three thermal power stations with a total capacity of 3.6 million kilowatts and an open-cut coal mine (up to 20 million metric tons a year).

As for the content of cooperation, this envisages the completion of design work and the supply and installation of equipment. Visits to China by Soviet specialists and the reception of Chinese technical personnel in the USSR for training are envisaged.

When discussing questions of economic and technical cooperation new proposals from the sides on expanding it were examined. We have considerable reserves in this field.

[Savenkov] The commission session discussed questions of organizing cooperation in the field of planning activity. A few words about this, please.

[Arkhipov] The sides considered it useful to establish ties between the two countries' planning commissions and advocated that they should consult in the future on the form and content of these ties. They expressed themselves in favor of an extensive exchange of experience between the Soviet Union and the PRC on planning questions. After all, our socialist countries have accumulated a considerable amount of things of interest in this field.

[Savenkov] What are the prospects for scientific and technical ties with the PRC?

[Arkhipov] We discussed the state of Soviet-Chinese scientific and technical cooperation and the prospects for expanding it. The commission positively assessed the exchange of scientific and technical delegations and groups begun in 1982. During this period Chinese specialists have familiarized themselves with the USSR's coal and oil industries and the administration of sea ports and the health services. Soviet chemists, petrochemists, fisheries experts, and metallurgists have been to China. And this is far from a complete list.

The reserves in the field of scientific and technical cooperation are undoubtedly considerable and its scale will undoubtedly broaden. To coordinate work in this field, a standing subcommission for scientific and technical cooperation has been created.

It is significant that the view that our scientific and technical cooperation should be transferred onto a long-term basis was expressed at the commission session.

[Savenkov] Your impressions of present-day China. Did you visit the enterprises that you knew well from the fifties?

[Arkhipov] I had rich impressions. An active economic life is going on in the country, industrial enterprises are being built and remodeled, and the rates of development of individual industrial regions are high. We visited enterprises in the suburbs of Beijing and the major industrial centers of Nanking and Wuchi and spoke with representatives of enterprises and organizations and urban and rural inhabitants. It was doubly interesting for me because I worked in China for a long time in the fifties.

Here are a few details. The delegation visited a metallurgical combine on the outskirts of Beijing. For 6 years now it has been working under the conditions of an economic experiment. The enterprise has great economic rights. Out of its high profit the combine is remodeling and expanding its shops and ensuring the solution of social problems -- all without financing from the state budget. Under the regulations at least 20 percent of the combine's profits go into the state budget. We looked at the remodeled agglomerate shop. The remodeling has been carried out to a high technical standard. We visited the rolling shop built in the fifties on the basis of Soviet equipment. As the shop chief said, the equipment operates reliably and well. The shop exceeded its design capacity many years ago. Output quality meets high technical demands.

In one of the districts linking six villages on the outskirts of Wuchi we familiarized ourselves with two subsidiary enterprises. The first is a factory manufacturing children's soft toys which works for export orders from foreign trade organizations. It employs 110 female workers. The only equipment is 30 sewing machines. At harvest time the women switch to agricultural work. The second is a small metal plant manufacturing simple mechanisms to orders from a specialized industrial enterprise. These enterprises have a dual purpose: to employ free manpower and bring in revenue to solve the district's social problems.

A characteristic detail: In Beijing, Nanking, and Wuchi alike we met Chinese specialists who were educated in the Soviet Union and worked with Soviet specialists in the fifties. We spoke Russian with them.

In conclusion I would like to say that it is possible to conclude from our conversations with members of the Chinese delegation, workers in the provinces, and leading figures of China that they have a good knowledge of the work of the 27th CPSU Congress and its decisions. They expressed great interest in the congress documents and the socioeconomic program to be implemented in the Soviet Union. The Chinese head of government stated that the course aimed at accelerating the Soviet Union's socioeconomic development and the implementation of reforms in the economic field are of great interest.

The delegation took away with it the conviction that progress in the trade, economic, scientific, technical, and other fields of businesslike cooperation promotes the improvement of relations in other fields too, which is in keeping with the long-term fundamental interests of the peoples of the USSR and China.

SOVIET, PRC TIES DESPITE DIFFERENCES STRESSED

OW180436 Moscow in Mandarin to China 0200 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Mulatov commentary: "Expand the Field of Cooperation"]

[Text] The Soviet Union and China held another round of political consultations in Moscow. While receiving Chinese Foreign Minister Qian Qichen [title as heard], Soviet Foreign Minister Shevardnadze stressed that there is a tremendous potential for Soviet-Chinese cooperation. During the meeting, he also pointed out: Although the Soviet Union and China adopt different attitudes toward some international issues, their interests are objectively identical as far as their striving for peace and socialism and their opposition to the threat of nuclear war, the arms race, and the militarization of the space are concerned. The following is a commentary by station observer Mulatov, entitled: Expand the Field of Cooperation.

Further improving and developing Soviet-Chinese relations in the political, economic, scientific and technological, cultural, and other fields accords with the aspirations of the peoples of the two countries, the interests of consolidating peace in Asia and the world, and the interests of strengthening the international status of socialism. Dear Chinese listeners, what gladdens people is that during their consultations, both sides confirmed that they (?were paying attention to these). The 27th CPSU Congress' programmatic document on the expansion of relations with all other socialist countries explicitly, comprehensively, and specifically reflects the position of the CPSU and the Soviet State on relations with China. On cooperation with other socialist countries, a portion of the party program adopted by the congress stresses: What unites socialist countries is of such primary importance that it eclipses what separates them.

Dear Chinese listeners, I believe you understand the tremendous international significance of strengthening the bilateral relations between two big socialist countries. As you know, imperialism uses political, economic, ideological, and other means as well as national sentiments to commit aggression against other countries, to weaken the international status of socialism, and to sabotage the relations among socialist countries, especially the relations between a socialist country and the Soviet Union. Therefore, in the confrontation between two different systems in the world, it is of particular importance for the socialist countries to firmly unite with one another.

Our two countries have undertaken not to be the first to use nuclear weapons, but the United States and its allies are unwilling to undertake such a commitment. The Soviet Union and China are firmly opposed to the militarization of space, but the United States has started research on its star wars program and has convinced some of its military allies to join the program. Both our countries support Democratic Korea's proposal for the peaceful and democratic reunification of Korea, but the United States has been pursuing a policy of dividing Korea. Both the Soviet Union and China advocate the nonaligned countries' plan to turn the Indian Ocean into a peaceful and nuclear-free zone. This is very important. As you know, the United States -- regardless of the vital interests of the peoples of the various countries in that region -- is expanding its military (?bases) there. There are many other instances in which the fundamental interests of the Soviet Union and China are objectively identical. It should be kept in mind that what unites socialist countries is of such primary importance that it eclipses what separates them.

REPORTAGE ON DRA DELEGATION VISIT TO MOSCOW

Departure From Kabul

LD211531 Kabul BAKHTAR in Pashto 1130 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul, 21 Apr (BAKHTAR) -- Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Politburo of the PDPA Central Committee and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, heading a high-ranking state delegation, left this morning for the USSR at the invitation of the Soviet Government for an official and friendly visit.

A number of the Politburo members and secretaries of the PDPA Central Committee, vice chairmen and members of the Council of Ministers, the head of the DRA Supreme Court, and F.A. Tabeyev, ambassador of the Soviet Union to Kabul, were present at Kabul International Airport to see the delegation off.

The delegation accompanying Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand includes: Sarwar Mangal, vice chairman of the Council of Ministers and head of the State Planning Committee; Raz Mohammad Paktin, minister of electrical energy; Ahmad Shah Sorkhabi, minister of irrigation and water resources; Mohammad 'Aziz, minister of light industries and foodstuffs; Syed Murtaza, head of the management department of the Council of Ministers; Abdol Tawab Zaka'ye, vice minister of foreign affairs; and Abdol Baqi Samandari, deputy finance minister.

Received in Moscow

LD211119 Moscow TASS in English 1105 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, arrived in Moscow today on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport he was met by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, Nikolay Talyzin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and other officials.

Ryzhkou, Keshtmand Hold Talks

PM230906 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 22 Apr 86 Single Edition p 2

["Arrival in Moscow" -- KRASNAYA ZVEZDA headline]

[Text] Talks were held in the Kremlin on the same day [21 April] between N.I. Ryzhkov and S.'A. Keshtmand.

During the talks that were held in the atmosphere of friendship and complete mutual understanding, the guest was informed about the work now under way in the Soviet Union to implement the decisions of the 27th CPSU Congress, the strategic course outlined by the congress of accelerating the country's socioeconomic development, and about the international activity of the CPSU and the Soviet Government in the world situation that has been sharply aggravated by imperialist militaristic circles.

The historic significance of the Soviet nuclear disarmament program advanced in the 15 January statement of M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and of the principled bases of a comprehensive international security system contained in the CPSU Central Committee Political Report to the 27th party congress was emphasized. The USSR's peace-loving proposals for strengthening all-European security advanced by M.S. Gorbachev in Berlin 18 April have also attracted world public attention.

Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand reaffirmed the support of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan for the Soviet Union's foreign policy initiatives whose implementation would make it possible to radically improve the situation in the world.

The sides noted that the undeclared war unleashed against Afghanistan is part of the general line of the imperialist and reactionary forces at the creation of acute conflict situations in various areas of the world, at the use of those situations for the heightening of tension and the continuation of the arms race.

The sides resolutely condemned the U.S. piratic action against Libya, an action that will escalate international tension. They demanded that the policy of aggression be ended.

The Soviet side emphasized that it supports and will continue supporting the efforts of Democratic Afghanistan aimed at protecting its sovereignty.

The Afghan side confirmed the striving for the speediest political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan. It expressed the intention to press for this aim at the coming round of the Afghan-Pakistani talks to be held in Geneva next May. The Afghan side declared again that it firmly proceeds from the view that the main content of a settlement must be a complete end to armed interference and any other outside interference in the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and its guaranteed nonresumption. The Soviet side completely supported a realistic and constructive program advanced by the DRA Government.

A thorough discussion of questions of bilateral relations took place at the talks. The sides noted with satisfaction that relations of friendship, genuine good-neighborliness, and all-round cooperation between the two countries are steadily developing and strengthening.

Special attention was paid to the further widening and upgrading of Soviet-Afghan economic cooperation. Prospects for this cooperation for years ahead have been outlined.

Ryzhkov Dinner Speech

PM221537 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 22 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[Report on speech by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the CPSU Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, at a dinner held in honor of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, in Moscow on 21 April: "Comrade N.I. Ryzhkov's Speech" carried under the general headline "In a Friendly Atmosphere" -- TASS headline]

On behalf of the Soviet leadership, he said, we cordially greet the distinguished guests from a neighboring friendly country -- the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan -- the head of its government Comrade Keshtmand and the statesmen and politicians accompanying him. Our meeting is taking place on the eve of a memorable date that we all hold close to heart -- the 116th anniversary of the birth of Vladimir Ilich Lenin.

Associated with his name is the recognition of Afghan sovereignty by Soviet Russia, which was the first in the world to do this, as well as the entablishment of equal relations between our countries and the conclusion of the Soviet-Afghan treaty of friendship in 1921. That treaty embodied a new type of international relations that became possible as a result of the victory of the Great October Socialist Revolution.

For the first time ever in international life relations of genuine free choice, equality, and mutual respect replaced relations based on the oppression of weak countries by strong ones, on the exploitation and plunder of enslaved peoples. The treaty of 1921, the unselfish support given by Soviet Russia enabled Afghanistan to uphold and consolidate its national independence.

After the victory in Afghanistan of the national-democratic revolution of April 1978 relations between our countries were given new momentum and, as it was recently stressed by Comrade Babrak Karmal, acquired a truly fraternal nature. This found its reflection also in the treaty of friendship, good-neighborliness, and cooperation of 5 December 1978.

The 27th CPSU Congress confirmed our party's invariable solidarity with forces of national social liberation, its course of close interaction with revolutionary-democratic parties, with the Nonaligned Movement. In relations with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan this policy of ours finds its concrete expression in most diverse fields of good-neighborly internationalist cooperation.

The diverse ties between the CPSU and the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, between our governments, and state bodies are acquiring an ever growing importance. Our trade unions, youth, women's and other public organizations are cooperating. More and more new contacts are being established between scientists, between workers in the fields of art and culture.

Soviet-Afghan economic cooperation encompasses diverse spheres of economic activity and is successfully developing. Industrial enterprises have been built in Afghanistan with the assistance of the Soviet Union; big irrigation complexes have been built and turned tens of thousands of hectares of arid land into fertile land; power stations have been built and account for a considerable part of the electricity generated in the country; gas wells have been sunk; apartment houses, educational establishments, and hospitals are being built. All this, just as the work of Soviet technical specialists, doctors, and teachers in Afghanistan is subordinated to the needs of the Afghan people, the aims of fulfilling the programs of overcoming backwardness and developing the national economy outlined by the DRA leadership.

The undeclared war against Afghanistan, unleashed by the forces of international imperialism and reaction headed by the United States and conducted mostly from the territory of neighboring Pakistan, has become a great trial for the young republic. Today the state has to spend half of its budget on defending the country, on defending the revolution. But even in these conditions the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, the Revolutionary Council, and Council of Ministers of Afghanistan give constant thought to the country's future, to strengthening its economy and raising the people's living standards.

Modern Afghanistan is a country confidently building its life on principles of independence and progress, a country consistently carrying out socioeconomic transformations in the interests of working people. The policy pursued by the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan finds a growing response and support among the people.

Ever broader sections, including representatives of the tribes, the clergy, the intelligentsia, and the business community, are being drawn into carrying out tasks of importance to the whole state, the entire nation.

Soviet people and all friends of Afghanistan note with much satisfaction these new manifestations of national consolidation in the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan. They reflect the irreversibility of the gains of the April Revolution that guarantee the country's development along the road of progress and social justice.

But the forces of imperialism and reaction would like a different morrow for the Afghan people. They have not given up attempts to dictate to independent Afghanistan what road it should follow, what government it should have, and what friends to chose. The Afghan people are courageously and selflessly struggling against this interference and resolutely repulsing the aggression unleashed against it. The democratic forces of the whole world are in solidarity with it.

The Soviet Union invariably supports the DRA in its striving to achieve a settlement of the situation around Afghanistan by political means. Our principled position on this question was outlined at the 27th CPSU Congress. As we were told by Comrade Keshtmand, the Afghan-Pakistani talks have now approached a particularly important stage. The Soviet Union wishes these talks success and would like substantial progress to be achieved as soon as this year in the matter of reaching a political settlement that would ensure a real terminiation and guaranteed non-resumption of armed interference from the outside into the internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan.

The Soviet-Afghan talks which have been held have shown that we have every opportunity for further developing bilateral relations and have confirmed our common assessments of the situation in the world, which enable us to continue cooperating fruitfully in the international arena.

Afghanistan holds a worthy place in the world community of states. It is making a useful contribution to the common efforts of the participants in the Nonaligned Movement directed at preserving and strengthening peace, averting nuclear war, liquidating racism, neocolonialism, economic discrimination, and at developing extensive international cooperation. We respect the policy of nonalignment pursued by the DRA.

We express our firm solidarity with Libya, a member of the Nonaligned Movement that was subjected to a barbarous attack by the United States. In the case of both Libya and Afghanistan the source of the aggression is one and the same. The difference being that in one case it was perpetrated by the United States itself and in the other case by proxy. But an aggression remains an aggression, it creates a threat to universal peace and an end must be put to it. Such is the demand of the peoples.

We note with gratification that the DRA Government has supported the program for liquidating weapons of mass annihilation and of averting a new world war, outlined in the statement made by CPSU Central Committee General Secretary Mikhail Gorbachev on 15 January 1986. The basic principles of an all-embracing system of international security formulated in the Political Report of the CPSU Central Committee to the 27th party congress, our efforts to stop nuclear tests, and the new Soviet initiative concerning a substantial reduction of conventional armaments and armed forces in Europe, which was announced by Mikhail Gorbachev in Berlin on 18 April, were also received with a positive response and support in Afghanistan. We value the mutual understanding with the Afghan friends on all these questions and their contribution to our joint struggle for peace and international cooperation.

Soviet-Afghan relations have a good future. We will do everything possible to strengthen and develop ties with the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and friendship with the Afghan people.

We wish the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, its Central Committee, the Government of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the entire Afghan people successes in fulfilling the tasks set by the April Revolution and in defending its gains, N.I. Ryzhkov said in concusion.

We wish big successes and health to the Afghan leadership, to Comrade Babrak Karmal, to you, Comrade Keshtmand.

May friendship, cooperate, and revolutionary solidarity between the CPSU and the PDPA, the Soviet and Afghan peoples strengthen.

Keshtmand on Normalizing Relations

LD211750 Moscow TASS in English 1716 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 21 TASS -- "Despite the grim conditions of war the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan is implementing consistently the course at fundamental transformations in the political, economic and social spheres," member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said today at a dinner given in his honor in the Kremlin. He is staying here on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

"The broad masses of the people strongly support the aims of the April Revolution which is shown by the results of the Loya Jirga and the Supreme Jirga of frontier tribes. They have endorsed wholly and completely the home and foreign policy of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, the policy of Afghan-Soviet friendship," Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said.

"More than 100 facilities have been built in Afghanistan with all-round Soviet assistance. They play the decisive role in the consolidation of the country's economy", the speaker went on.

"Enterprises built and operated with Soviet assistance ensure about 45 percent of the revenues of the state budget from domestic sources and account for 75 percent of the industrial output of the state sector."

"As an Asian country, nonaligned and revolutionary Afghanistan has particular interest in the problem of ensuring security in Asia," Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said.

"I would like to emphasize in this connection that the well-known proposals of the DRA Government and the steps it takes toward political settlement of the situation around Afghanistan blend with the Soviet Union's concept of peace in the Asian continent", he said.

The sincere desire of the DRA and the USSR to achieve political settlement of the problem is strikingly confirmed by Mikhail Gorbachev's pronouncement at the 27th CPSU Congress that the two countries will agree on the schedule of stage-by-stage withdrawal of Soviet troops from Afghanistan as soon as a political settlement is achieved that will really put an end to outside armed interference in internal affairs of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan and reliably guarantee that such interference is not resumed.

"We have a right to expect the same sense of responsibility and realistic approach from other side. Deplorably, while paying lip service to the normalization of relations with the DRA, Pakistan steps up interference in Afghanistan's internal affairs from its territory, the interference that is masterminded by the USA, by its Western alies and the reactionary circles in the region."

"But all attempts of the enemies of the April Revolution to bring Afghanistan back to the past grim times are doomed to failure", Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand said in conclusion.

PRAVDA Profiles Keshtmand

PM211033 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 21 Apr 86 First Edition p 1

[Unattributed article: "On the Visit of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, to the Soviet Union"]

[Excerpts] Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the PDPA Central Committee Politburo and chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers, arrives in Moscow today on an official visit at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

The Soviet Union knows that the DRA is continuing the implementation of the programs outlined by the revolutionary authorities, is expanding the social base of the revolution, and involving the broad strata of the population in participation in the solution of nationwide tasks. Despite the undeclared war unleashed by the forces of imperialism and reaction, considerable successes have been achieved in the field of the development of the economy, culture, and education.

The DRA's foreign policy proceeds from interests of safeguarding peace and international security and is aimed at maintaining normal relations with all countries, including neighboring countries. The DRA takes a constructive and realistic stance on questions of a political settlement of the situation surrounding Afghanistan and is making constant efforts on the path of its speediest achievement.

Soviet-Afghan relations, to whose development A.'S Keshtmand makes a great personal contribution, are truly friendly and good-neighborly. A.'S. Keshtmand has visited our country frequently and was a member of the PDPA delegation at the 27th CPSU Congress.

Soviet people wholeheartedly welcome the arrival of the DRA Council of Ministers chairman in the USSR and express the certainty that his visit to our country will be a new milestone on the path of the further consolidation of the friendship and all-around cooperation between the USSR and the DRA and between the Soviet and Afghan peoples.

Cooperation Treaty Signed

LD220926 Moscow TASS in English 0909 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, and Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Political Bureau of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, have signed in the Kremlin today a treaty between the Governments of the USSR and the DRA on the guidelines for economic and trade cooperation.

A protocol concerning questions of economic cooperation for 1986-1990 has been signed by Konstantin Katushev, chairman of the USSR State Committee for Foreign Economic Relations, and Mohammad Sarwar Mangal, vice-chairman of the DRA Council of Ministers.

A joint communique has been adopted on the results of the official visit to the USSR of Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand.

Keshtmand Departs Moscow

LD230625 Moscow TASS in English 0607 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 23 TASS -- Soltan 'Ali Keshtmand, member of the Political Bureau of the Central Committee of the People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan, left Moscow today. He has stayed in the Soviet Union on an official visit since Monday at the invitation of the Soviet Government.

At the airport he was seen off by Nikolay Ryzhkov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, Nikolay Talyzin, alternate member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and by other officials.

DRA INFORMS UN OF PAKISTANI AIRSPACE VIOLATION

LD222321 Moscow TASS in English 1730 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Note to UN Secretary General on Pakistan's Designs -- TASS item identifier]

[Text] New York April 22 TASS -- The Government of Afghanistan has informed the U.N. secretary general of continuing provocations on the Afghan-Pakistani frontier, committed by Pakistan's Armed Forces.

A note to Perez de Cuellar, sent by the permanent representation of the Democratic Republic of Afghanistan at the United Nations, says that one of the latest actions was the April 11 violation of Afghanistan's airspace by Pakistani war planes as deep as 8 kilometres.

The Government of Afghanistan demands that an end be put to provocative actions which lead to deterioration of the situation in frontier areas, the note says.

BAKHTAR CITED ON SLAYING OF 300 AFGHAN REBELS

LD211545 Moscow TASS in English 1453 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Kabul April 21 TASS -- According to the BAKHTAR agency, Afghan security forces with active support of the local population have routed several counterrevolutionary gangs in the Khowst District and the Tani Area, Paktia Province. They infiltrated into this province from abroad. A total of 300 terrorists were killed, over 60 trench mortars and ack-ack machine guns, many missiles and mines as well as several underground munitions depots were captured. More than 70 West-made machine guns and trench mortars were destroyed.

TASS CITES CONDEMNATIONS OF U.S. ATTACK ON LIBYA

Laos Calls Raid 'Disgraceful'

LD180448 Moscow TASS in English 1113 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Vientiane April 17 TASS — The Foreign Ministry of the Lao People's Democratic Republic has strongly condemned the brutal bombing of the Libyan cities of Tripoli and Banghazi by U.S. Air Force planes.

This disgraceful attack launched on the orders of the U.S. Administration, the statement by the Foreign Ministry says, is a crude encroachment upon the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Libya -- a state belonging to the Nonaligned Movement, a member of the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations Organization. There is no justification for the provocative actions of the USA flouting the fundamental principles of international law and the U.N. Charter.

The people of Laos, who went through the flames of the U.S. imperialist aggression Indochina, are expressing solidarity with the struggle waged by the friendly Libyan people, the statement says. The Government of the Lao People's Democratic Republic demands an immediate and unconditional end to the hostile actions against the Libyan Jamahiriyah.

Cambodia Denounces 'Criminal' Act

LD180658 Moscow TASS in English 0723 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Phnom Penh April 17 TASS -- A statement of the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea published here says that the government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea, the whole of the Kampuchean people, emphatically denounce the criminal, aggressive act of the U.S. Administration staged against sovereign and independent Libya.

The steps taken by the Reagan administration constitute a gross violation of international law and pose a serious threat to peace and security of Arab nations. These actions are a [words indistinct] the policy of state terrorism pursued by the U.S. ruling circles.

The Kampuchean people who some time ago fell victim to the barbarous aggression of U.S. imperialism know from their own experience the brutality of the U.S. military. The people and the Government of the People's Republic of Kampuchea fully support the just struggle of Libya against the U.S. aggressive actions and demand that an end be put at once to the criminal actions of the Reagan administration.

Malaysia Condemns 'Bandit' Attack

LD190710 Moscow TASS in English 1235 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Text] New Delhi April 18 TASS -- Malaysia has condemned the U.S. bandit attack against Libya, Malaysian Deputy Foreign Minister Datuk Abdul Kadir Shaykh Fadzir told the current plenary session in the Indian capital of the Coordination Bureau of the Non-Aligned Movement. We, he said, demand an immediate end to actions fraught with the danger of a growing conflict.

PRAVDA VIEWS AUSTRALIA'S STAND ON SDI PLANS

PM171415 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Oleg Skalkin "Commentator's Column": "The Pressure Is Not Working"]

[Text] Sydney -- Washington's attempts to involve as many states as possible in its space militarization venture have misfired in Australia. This was shown particularly by Pentagon chief C. Weinberger's recent visit here. It has been stated here that "the Australian Government will not compromise on the question of participation in the 'star wars' program."

The stormy debates which have raged in recent days in Australian political and public circles and in the local press have shown that this stance is supported by most Australians. Addressing his party's parliamentary faction, Australian Prime Minister R. Hawke confirmed "the government's resolute opposition to the SDI program." He described reports about the possibility of a change in his stance on this issue as groundless speculation. Defense Minister K. Beazley also said in parliament that it was the government's intention to "strictly adhere to its initial principle of opposing SDI and any Australian participation in research under the program." Judging by these statements, Australia, while remaining an ally of the United States, is nevertheless seeking to define the boundaries of military collaboration with Washington, excluding from it spheres which from Canberra's standpoint deliberately lead to an intensification of the nuclear arms race and undermine the prospects of disarmament.

This display of willfulness on the part of its junior ANZUS partner is clearly not to Washington's liking. There they prefer to pay no heed to statements unfavorable to Americans and carry on regardless. And although in its attempts to win Australia round the United States has not acted as crudely as with New Zealand, which has closed its ports to America's nuclear fleet, the wearing of "velvet gloves" does not soften the "senior partner's" grip. The latest evidence of that was the visit by C. Weinberger, who, according to the newspaper THE AGE, again tried in Canberra "to sell 'star wars' to the Australians.

Weinberger's bait turned out to be the old one: Australian scientists are being tempted by the fact that they will obtain large subsidies for research work in the event of an SDI linkup. Attempts are also being made to inveigle local industrialists with promises of profit from SDI orders...

Thus far, however, American efforts have not been crowned with success. And this is demonstrated not only by the Australian Government's firm refusal to participate in SDI. It is also shown by the resolute rejection of the "star wars" plans among broad strata of the Australian people. Australians, with every justification, regard SDI as an outcome of the American policy of "neoglobalism" which threatens international peace and the peoples' security.

GORBACHEV TOURS INSTITUTE, VISITS POTSDAM

PM231012 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 22 Apr 86 First Edition p 2

[TASS report: "CPSU Delegation's Visit"]

[Text] Berlin, 21 Apr -- Yesterday M.S. Gorbachev, general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee, and the other members of the CPSU delegation attending the 11th SED Congress visited the SED Central Committee Central Institute for Socialist Management of the National Economy.

The institute's staff warmly welcomed the dear Soviet guests.

Addressing the staff of the institute, M.S. Gorbachev emphasized that the 11th SED Congress is a great event in the life of the GDR people. I want to congratulate you, he said, on your good results and prospects. You have worked well. When a man has completely clear vision of the future, of how the country, the enterprise, and the family will live -- this is a great thing. Both you and we are so spoiled by socialism that we frequently forget this. (Animation among the audience, applause). We take everything for granted. Yet both the current achievements and the excellent prospects are a great thing.

We are proud of our friendship, of our joint struggle, the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee went on. We take pride in the fact that for more that 40 years we have marched together, shoulder to shoulder. We share the pride of the GDR people who have built the first state of workers and peasants here on German soil. We have always been at your side, we have always helped each other. I would like to repeat here what I told the congress delegates: The CPSU and the Soviet people favor the further strengthening of the bonds of our friendship so that this friendship can bring new successes and happiness to the GDR and the Soviet people. After all, this is of tremendous significance for Europe and the whole world.

Academician (G. Kotsiolok), the institute's director, spoke about the main areas of the institute's activity. One of the main tasks of its staff, which includes 30 professors, is the training and retraining of leading party, state, and economic cadres. The institute's graduates are working successfully in party committees and at the country's enterprises and scientific establishments. As the coordinator of scientific activity in the economic sphere, the institute conducts research into socialist economic management problems. AS the principal scientific organization, it participates directly in the work of the USSR-GDR Joint Economic Commission.

At the end of last year a center for training leading cadres in the field of automated control and planning systems was established here, the only center of this kind.

The CPSU delegation members inspected the institute's scientific laboratories, talked to scientists, and acquainted themselves in detail with scientific methods of national economic management based on the application of computer technology.

M.S. Gorbachev thanked the staff of the institute and noted that both in their research and in their practical work they are on the right path.

On the same day the CPSU delegation visited Potsdam Bezirk. Thousands upon thousands of inhabitants enthusiastically greeted the representatives of the Leninist party.

A talk was held with the leadership of the SED Bezirk Committee.

M.S. Gorbachev presented the Potsdam party bezirk committee with a commemorative Red Banner. Accepting it, G. Jahn, first secretary of the bezirk committee cordially the general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. He said that the bezirk's Communists will treasure this Red Banner and will take it to the May Day parade.

Then the CPSU delegation visited the Cecilienhof palace, where the historic Potsdam Conference of the heads of state and government of the USSR, the United States, and Great Britain was held in the summer of the victorious year of 1945. In 1952 a museum, which around half a million people visit every year, was opened in the palace.

M.S. Gorbachev and the other members of the CPSU delegation looked around the hall where the conference was held and visited the room where the Soviet delegation worked and other premises at the museum.

Addressing those who had gathered in the museum, M.S. Gorbachev said: Everyone who comes here is compelled to return to history, especially here where the results of the bloodiest war in mankind's history were summed up. It is impossible not to think about mankind and its destiny here.

The documents on show here remind us that when the Potsdam Conference ended, the leaders of the anti-Hitler coalition powers parted with words of hope for a more lasting peace. These words have not lost their meaning today.

On the one hand, we have had more than 40 years of peace in Europe, although there have been military conflicts in other parts of the world. This is a great victory for the forces of peace, which was achieved above all thanks to the tremendous contribution of the socialist states and other peace-loving countries.

On the other hand, we know that the times in which we live are very alarming and dangerous. Certain people are again indulging in illusions of being able to achieve military superiority and rule the world. If you take into consideration that all this is happening in the nuclear age, and where such a policy can lead, it become clear to all who treasure peace, who remember at what cost it was won, that the main thing now is to spare no effort to ensure that the sacrifices of World War II whose results were summed up here in Potsdam prove not to have been made in vain. Here, in this museum there is much food for thought...

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee recalled further that one of the most important results of the war and postwar development is the present-day GDR, a great friend of the Soviet Union and a powerful factor for peace in the center of Europe. However, it is necessary to think about the future, he said. It is to this that the 11th SED Congress is devoted. One of its delegates said yesterday that the stronger socialism is, the stronger peace is. But socialism also needs peace in order to realize its potential. Fine words, true words!

This theme, M.S. Gorbachev emphasized, also rang out at our 27th party congress and the congresses of the other fraternal parties. This theme and our plans for the future are the best evidence of what our peoples are thinking about and what they are striving for. We will spare no effort to preserve peace!

The general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee thanked the museum workers for their useful work which helps people understand the past and learn its lessons. He presented a gift to the museum, a sculpture by RSFSR People's Artist O.S. Kiryukhin which symbolizes a Soviet soldier bringing peace and happiness to children.

M.S. Gorbachev made the following inscription in the museum's guests of honor book:

"We were deeply impressed by our visit to Cecilienhof, the venue of the Potsdam Conference, which has become the symbol of the rout of fascism and the establishment of a just peace in Europe. It also set an example showing that cooperation between states that belong to different social systems is possible.

"The claims that 'Potsdam and Yalta split Europe' are totally at variance with the truth. On the contrary, they created the conditions for the peaceful, free, and democratic development of all states in Europe. Europe was split by the West's striving for military superiority and the attempts to revive West German militarism. The Soviet Union, and the socialist community as a whole, will not weaken in its efforts to overcome this split and to strengthen detente on the basis of the further development of the all-European process."

M.S. Gorbachev and members of the CPSU delegation were accompanied on the trip by G. Mittag, member of the SED Central Committee Politburo.

CHEBRIKOV MAKES 'OFFICIAL, FRIENDLY VISIT' TO HUNGARY

LD230733 Moscow TASS in English 0723 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 23 TASS -- Viktor Chebrikov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR State Security Committee, left Moscow for Budapest today for an official friendly visit at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and the Council of Ministers of the Hungarian People's Republic.

At the airport he was seen off by Geydar Aliyev, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, and by other officials. Among the send-off party was Sandor Rajnai, the ambassador of Hungary to the USSR.

Budapest Arrival

LD230855 Moscow TASS in English 0846 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Budapest April 23 TASS -- Viktor Chebrikov, member of the Political Bureau of the CPSU Central Committee, chairman of the USSR State Security Comittee, has arrived on an official friendly visit here today at the invitation of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party and the Hungarian Council of Ministers. In Ferihegy Airport he was welcomed by Istvan Horvath, secretary of the Central Committee of the Hungarian Socialist Workers' Party, Janos Kamara, Hungarian minister of the interior, and other officials.

ZHIVKOV SENDS MESSAGE OF SUPPORT TO LIBYA

LD172359 Moscow TASS in English 1937 GMT 17 Apr 86

[Text] Sofia April 17 TASS -- "The totally unprovoked barbarous aggression by the United States of America against Libya has filled the Bulgarian people and their leadership with profound indignation," says a message sent by Todor Zhivkov, general secretary of the Central Committee of the Bulgarian Communist Party, president of the Council of State of the People's Republic of Bulgaria, to Colonel Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi, leader of the Libyan revolution, the head of the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah (SPLAJ).

The message points out that the U.S. aggression has been firmly condemned in Bulgaria. Firm solidarity with and support for the friendly Libyan people were expressed in the Bulgarian Government's statement and in the joint statement of the Warsaw Treaty member states.

"Disregarding the calls and protests of world public opinion and the warnings of the peace-loving countries, and trampling on the norms of international law and on the principles laid down in the U.N. Charter, the United States, through its brazen provocative actions against the Libyan people, delivered a blow on mankind's hopes for peace and security," the message emphasizes.

"This new manifestation of the policy of neo-globalism and state terrorism, the policy which runs counter to the policy of all peace-loving poeples, is fraught with serious and grave consequences both for the Mediterranean area and for the entire international situation. The U.S. aggression is spearheaded not only against Libya. This is a multi-aspect anti-Arab action and an act directed against the efforts aimed at preserving and strengthening universal peace".

"Expressing the Bulgarian people's anger and indignation at the aggression against sovereign Libya," Todor Zhivkov writes, "I want on these stressful days of ordeals to express once again our firm solidarity and to voice conviction that the Libyan people, who are rallied round their leadership, who daringly uphold their progressive achievements and the independent anti-imperialist foreign policy, and who have inflicted a new moral and political defeat on imperialism, will further the triumphant march of the September 1 revolution."

ARKHIPOV DISCUSSES TRADE WITH SFRY'S FILIPOVIC

LD222342 Moscow in Serbo-Croatian to Yugoslavia 1600 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Today Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers, received Nikola Filipovic, president of the Yugoslav Chamber of Economy. In their talks, which took place in a warm and friendly atmosphere, they examined questions of the further all-round development of trade and economic cooperation between the USSR and the SFRY, among other things the expansion of business contacts between the USSR Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the Yugoslav Chamber of Economy. Also taking part in the talks was the Yugoslav ambassador to the USSR, Milojko Drulovic.

MURAKHOVSKIY RECEIVES POLISH AGRICULTURE MINISTER

PM230842 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 20 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 6

[TASS report under the general headline "Official Reports"]

[Text] On 19 April V.S. Murakhovskiy, first deputy chairman of the USSR Council of Ministers and chairman of the USSR State Agro-Industrial Committee, received S. Zieba, Polish minister of Agriculture and Food Economy.

During the meeting there was a discussion of questions of Soviet-Polish cooperation in sectors of the agro-industrial complex for 1986.

W. Natorf, Polish ambassador to the USSR, took part in the conversation.

TASS ANALYST CRITICIZES EEC DECISION ON LIBYA

LD222354 Moscow TASS in English 1945 GMT 22 Apr 86

["Victim of Aggression, Not the Aggressor, Is Punished" -- TASS identifier]

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- TASS political news analyst Aleksey Grigoryev writes:

After the United States had staged bombing raids of peaceful Libyan cities, the Common Market member countries subjected the victim of the aggression to an attack by means of diplomacy: A series of sanctions against Libya has been endorsed at a session of the Council of Ministers of the European Communities at the level of foreign ministers held in Luxembourg. The sanctions were manifested in the cuts of the personnel of the Libyan Embassies in the capitals of the Common Market countries, with the simultaneous reduction of the number of diplomats representing EEC countries in Tripoli, and also in the discriminatory measures against Libya's commercial and tourist agencies in the EEC countries.

It took Washington a week to compel the 12 Common Market members, by means of overt pressure on Western Europe, to actually encourage the U.S. piratic policy in the Mediterranean. Every method of propaganda pressure was brought into play: The head of the White House and many high officials of the U.S. Administration publicly expressed more than once their annoyance at "stubborness" of the partners on the other side of the Atlantic. According to a report in the "QUOTIDIEN DE PARIS", Reagan intends to have a serious talk with Francois Mitterrand about the ban on the use of the air space of France by U.S. bombers for a raid on Libya when he meets President Mitterrand during a conference of the seven major capitalist countries in Tokyo in May.

Besides that, U.S. Undersecretary of State John Whitehead was sent on a tour to Europe. The British "GUARDIAN" write that he was to try to overcome in some measure the damage done to the solidarity of the member countries of the alliance by the raid of the U.S. aviation on Libya.

There is no doubt that Washington's irresponsible actions in the Mediterranean were received in Western Europe as a slap in the face from the senior partner in NATO. Such an attitude was manifested in a number of political statements condemning the United States brutality, in a wave of mass protest that swept the cities of Britain, Spain, Portugal, FRG, Italy and other countries, and in the results of the public opinion polls in which the Pentagon's venture in Libya has been stigmatised. The London "TIMES" wrote in this connection that West European governments had landed in a difficult situation.

On the one hand, they had to lessen the dangerous contradictions within NATO manifested in Washington's statements about "conciliatory attitudes" of Western Europe with regard to terrorism. On the other hand, they had to take into consideration broad opposition of the public to the United States actions against Libya.

And yet the EEC leaders were lacking political will to open their eyes to the ruins of residential areas of Tripoli, the dead bodies of Libyan women and children, to listen to the clamour of the protest of thousands in the streets of European cities. The participants in the Luxembourg meeting followed in the wake of Washington that continues to whip up the unbridled anti-Libyan campaign and to threaten Tripoli with "new actions".

But it is not likely that they in Washington are fully satisfied with reports from Luxembourg.

Contrary to the demands by Washington and by London obediently following in its wake, the EEC refused to rupture the political and diplomatic relations with Libya, and confirmed its negative attitude to the economic sanctions. The cracks in the edifice of so-called Atlantic solidarity, though pasted up, have not been removed. The formally deferential attitude is the cover for doubts about Reagan and his policy. The NEW YORK TIMES had to admit this in its commentary on relations between the United States and Western Europe. The newspaper writes that on the other side of the Atlantic ever more concern is shown over Reagan's interventionist actions in Libya, Nicaragua, Angola and over his pronouncements in Rambo's style.

UK JOINS 'VICIOUS' ANTI-LIBYA CAMPAIGN; DEPORTS STUDENTS

LD221301 Moscow TASS in English 1218 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] London April 22 TASS -- The British Government has joined in a vicious anti-Libyan campaign launched by Washington and announced the arrest and forthcoming deportation of 19 Libyan students. It follows from a statement of the Home Office (Ministry of the Interior) that the orders on the arrest and deportation of the students were given personally by Home Secretary Douglas Hurd. The pretext for that act of provocation was the allegation that the arrested students had been involved in "student revolutionary activity." It is noted here that the action followed immediately the decision of the Common Market foreign ministers to introduce sanctions against Libya.

ARKHIPOV RECEIVES UK'S ENERGY SECRETARY

LD222057 Moscow TASS in English 1645 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Moscow April 22 TASS -- Ivan Arkhipov, first deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR, today received the British Minister of Energy Peter Walker and had a conversation with him on prospects of developing mutually advantageous trade, economic and scientific-technical cooperation between the USSR and Britain.

Peter Walker was received by Deputy Chairman of the Council of Ministers of the USSR Boris Shcherbina.

The British Ambassador in the USSR Bryan Cartledge took part in the conversations.

SPD OFFICIAL CONDEMNS U.S. NUCLEAR TEST BLAST

LD222332 Moscow TASS in English 1825 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Bonn April 22 TASS -- The head of the working group for disarmament and arms control of the SPD [Social Democratic Party] faction in the Bundestag Defense Commission, Hermann Scheer, condemned the U.S. latest nuclear blast today. Every further U.S. nuclear weapon test, he said in a statement here, reduces chances for a turn to nuclear disarmament.

If the West German Government's statements about being interested in an end to nuclear explosions aren't all bluff, he added, Bonn should finally make initiatives towards this end in NATO. Scheer urged the government to table a proposal at the NATO ministerial council's session next May for an immediate end to nuclear weapon testing and to join efforts with Europeans and Canada to make certain that this proposal will be put into effect.

SOVIET, LIBYAN ACTIONS FOLLOWING RAID REPORTED

Soviet Ships Visit Libya

LD231024 Tripoli JANA in English 0913 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli, Shaban 13, April 23, Jamahiriyah News Agency -- Jamahiriyah News Agency has come to know that units of the Soviet fleet in the Mediterranean are currently visiting Al-Jamahiriyah seaports. Some of these units are the cruisers Drozit, Disi Litiska and Atlantski.

More Cruisers Named

LD230236 Tripoli Voice of Greater Arab Homeland in Arabic 0115 GMT 23 Apr 86

[Text] JANA has learned that a number of units belonging to the Soviet fleet in the Mediterranean are currently paying a visit to Jamahiriyah ports. Among these units are the cruisers Drozd,(?Roshdinskiy), and (?Suslavskiy)

Italian Ambassador Called In

LD222220 Moscow TASS in English 1828 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Tripoli April 22 TASS -- The Italian ambassador in Tripoli was invited to Libya's People's Bureau for External Ties, JANA agency reports. He was told to give explanations in connection with the return of ships of the American Sixth Fleet to NATO bases in Italy after taking part in aggressive actions against the Libyan people. The ambassador was told that in view of the relations of friendship and cooperation between the two countries the Italian Government should take effective measures to prevent the American fleet from using NATO bases. The head of the Italian diplomatic mission was told that proceeding from the principle of self-defence the Libyan Jamahiriyah would be compelled to take all the necessary measures to prevent a new aggression.

Syrian Minister Interviewed

LD182223 Moscow Television Service in Russian 1430 GMT 18 Apr 86

[Damascus special correspondent Farid Seyful-Mulyukov report on and interview with Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas; from the "Vremya" newscast]

[Text] The blast from the barbaric U.S. bombing of cities and other civilian targets in Libya instantaneously buffeted the Syrian capital as well. The Arabs have once again felt the scorching breath of imperialist aggression. In the presidential palace, at government sessions, at the editorial desks of local newspapers, radio and television, they are discussing with alarm the tense situation that has unfolded in this area. Syrian President Hafiz al-Asad, maintains constant contact with Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi. Both Arab countries are bound by the close ties of a joint struggle against Washington and Tel Aviv's aggressive schemes in the Near East. Today Libya has become the next victim of U.S. piracy. Tomorrow, under the pretext of pursuing terrorists, the United States or Israel may carry out an attack on any other Arab country with the same ease. In Damascus, in the general headquarters of the Syrian Armed Forces, I met with Syrian Defense Minister Mustafa Talas:

[Begin Talas recording in Arabic with superimposed Russian translation] As he gave the order to bomb Libyan cities, Reagan cynically asserted that, allegedly, it is a question of neutralizing the sources of terrorism. In fact, Washington has made active use of the tools of state terrorism in its unsuccessful struggle against peoples' national liberation movements. Syria, like other countries, resolutely condemns the criminal U.S. aggression against Libya. The Syrian people support the Libyan Jamahiriyah, which is courageously withstanding the blows of U.S. imperialism, with all available means. [end recording]

Arab Solidarity Urged

LD221151 Mocow TASS in English 1026 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Text] Damascus April 22 TASS -- The Government of the Syrian Arab Republic has urged all Arabs to strengthen solidarity in face of the aggressive policy of the USA and Israel. This call was made by Syria's Prime Minister' Abd ar-Ra'uf al-Kasm at a cabinet meeting on Monday. The cabinet examined the political situation, which emerged in the region as a result of the U.S. aggression against Libya.

Syrian Foreign Minister Faruq Shar' reported to the cabinet members on the contacts established by Syria in the international arena with the aim of countering Washington's and Tel Aviv's intrigues.

TOLKUNOV DENIES SOVIET ARMS SALES TO IRAN

LD222208 Kuwait KUNA in Arabic 2015 GMT 22 Apr 86

[Ellipses as received]

[Text] Tunis, 22 Apr (KUNA) -- A prominent Soviet official here this evening denied that his country has been selling arms to Iran, while he stressed that the Soviet stand vis-a-vis the U.S. aggression on the Socialist People's Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah "was not short of the required level." The chairman of the Council of the Union of the USSR Supreme Soviet, Lev Tolkunov, said, at a press conference in reply to a question by KUNA on the reason why the Soviet Union has been selling arms to Iran despite its obstinacy in refusing to stop the ongoing war in the Arab Gulf region, "We have to take into consideration that we are also selling arms to Iraq, and in the event of stopping our sale of arms to Iran we must do the same in relation to Iraq... This is taking into account the fact that we sell small quantities of arms to Iran." However, one of the Soviet official's aides slipped a written note to him that made Tolkunov reconsider and say: "One of my aides has alerted me that we do not sell arms to Iran."

In reply to another question by KUNA on his interpretation of the Soviet stand vis-a-vis the U.S. aggression on the Libyan Arab Jamahiriyah, which has been described as "short of the level required in Arab terms," the chairman of the Supreme Soviet strongly condemned the U.S. aggression against Libya and placed all responsibility for the results on the United States...in addition to this, the Soviet Union cancelled a meeting between its foreign minister and the U.S. secretary of state that was to pave the way for s summit meeting between the leaders of the two countries, due to the U.S. aggression on Libya. He added: "As you know, all popular institutions in the Soviet Union have strongly condemned the aforementioned U.S. aggression... and all this, in my opinion, confirms that the Soviet stand was at the required level under the prevailing circumstances." On the Middle East issue, Tolkunov said that the solution to this issue must be sought in the framework of an international conference with the participation of all concerned parties, including the PLO, on an equal basis.

SOVIET PRESS MARKS SYRIAN NATIONAL DAY

Government Greets Premier

PM171327 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 17 Apr 86 First Edition p 1

[Text] To Comrade 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, prime minister of the Syrian Arab Republic:

Accept, Comrade 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm, cordial greetings and good wishes on the occasion of Syria's national day -- the 40th anniversary of the evacuation of foreign forces. Over the past decades the Syrian people have written vivid pages in the history of the Arab anti-imperialist and national liberation movement, in their struggle against Israeli aggression and imperialist intrigues and for their legitimate rights.

We express confidence that the relations of friendship and fruitful cooperation between the USSR and the Syrian Arab Republic will strengthen and develop for the benefit of our countries' peoples, in the interests of a fair and lasting peace in the Near East.

We wish you, Comrade Prime Minister, and the Government and people of friendly Syria prosperity and successes.

USSR Council of Ministers

PRAVDA Article

PM220823 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 16 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Yu. Glukhov report under the rubric "17 April -- Syria's National Holiday": "The March of the Revolution"]

[Text] Damascus, April -- There are many sights in Damascus. Some are notable by virtue of being centuries old, others for their unique architecture, others again for the famous names of the architects who built them. But there is a building in the city center that has become famous for other reasons. It is the parliament building, whose popularity is closely associated with the Syrian people's independence struggle. Feelings have often run high within its wall and ardent speeches have rung out, reflecting the Syrians' desire for freedom. The parliament building has even been subjected to armed attack by the French colonialists, when the question of their withdrawal from Syria became acute in the mid-forties.

However, neither this nor other attempts to keep the country under foreign control was successful. The colonialists had to leave all the same. Here an important role was played by the support given to Syria by the Soviet Union. The USSR demanded at the United Nations that the French and British troops withdraw unconditionally from Syria. Evacuation Day -- 17 April 1946 -- became a national holiday.

Syria has come a long way since then. The most important milestone was the choice of the progressive course which now determines the country's development. This course was formulated under difficult conditions. At various stages very difficult barriers have been overcome -- the resistance of internal political reaction, comprador elements, and foreign capital.

Since 1963 the Arab Socialist Ba'th Party has been in power in the country, its leadership headed since 1970 by Hafiz al-Asad, who is also president of the country.

The Syrian people's socioeconomic gains are considerable. The nationalization of large enterprises, banks, and insurance companies secured commanding heights for the state sector. The agrarian reform undermined the position of rural landowners. The people's standard of living has improved considerably and great successes have been achieved in combating illiteracy and developing culture.

The composition of the parliament also reflects the changes in Syrian society. The majority of seats belong to representatives of the working people. During the recent election campaign the candidates were on a joint list put forward by the Progressive National Front. That is another characteristic of present-day domestic political life. The front was set up in 1972 as a base for cooperation between the ruling Ba'th Party and the Syrian Communist Party and other progressive forces. There are eight Communists in the present parliament. Two Communist Party representatives are in the government.

Despite all this, the task of defending the chosen course is still on the agenda. People I spoke with in Damascus repeatedly told me about the danger that exists from the parasitic and bureaucratic bourgeoisie and concealed reaction. Recent experience confirms this. In 1980-1981, for instance, there were counterrevolutionary armed sallies by the "Muslim brothers."

The most serious threat to Syria comes from outside. Of the 40 years that have elapsed since the country's deliverance from the colonial "presence," one-half have passed in direct confrontation with the Israeli aggressor. Tel Aviv's occupation of Syria's Golan Heights has continued since 1967.

The republic has recently been subjected to increasingly unbridled militarist blackmail. Relying on U.S. support, the Damascus newspaper TISHRIN writes, Tel Aviv entertains a plan for a large-scale "campaign" against Syria, regarding it as responsible for the failure of the so-called "peace initiatives" in the Near East aimed at establishing American-Israeli diktat in the region.

Delivering a program speech in parliament recently, Syrian Prime Minister 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm called for a redoubling of efforts in order to uphold and augment the people's gains.

Great attention is devoted to the comprehensive fulfillment of the tasks of the current, Sixth 5-Year Plan (1986-1990). 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm noted that it is based on improving the socioeconomic structures, increasing labor productivity and the productivity of agriculture, and strengthening the role of the public sector, as well as encouraging the private and mixed sector, in order to achieve cooperation among all three sectors.

In this connection, it must be noted that the Syrian economy is overloaded and is experiencing serious difficulties. The last 5 years have been years of drought; even without that the republic needs to import food. Considerable resources are spent on importing equipment and raw materials. On the basis of the decision of the Baghdad summit conference, Syria, as a country opposing the aggressor, should receive annual aid from the Arab oil-producing states to the tune of $1.8 billion, but this money has never arrived in full.

Reliance on the country's own forces and cooperation with the socialist countries -- that is the basis of the implementation of the tasks set.

Very rich experience has been accumulated in cooperation between Syria and the USSR which are linked by close treaty relations. The Soviet Union's multifaceted aid and assistance to the friendly country is an important factor promoting a successful advance along the path of independence and progress.

The flag of a truly free Syria was hoisted above the parliament building 4 decades ago. Under this flag the Syrian people are building a new life and, on the basis of their friends' support, resolutely rebuffing all who would like to hinder them.

SOVIET MACHINE BUILDING MINISTER VISITS SYRIA

Confers With Talas

JN151622 Damascus SANA in Arabic 1229 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Damascus, 15 Apr (SANA) -- General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, today received Soviet Minister of Machine Building Bakhirev and his delegation. The talks, which were attended by Deputy Defense Minister 'Awwad Bagh and the Soviet ambassador in Damascus, dealt with ways to improve bilateral friendship and cooperation.

Bakhirev arrived in Damascus yesterday afternoon at the head of an official delegation on a visit to Syria lasting several days.

Received by Al-Kasm

JN201605 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Damascus -- Prime Minister Dr 'Abd al-Ra'uf al-Kasm received USSR Minister of Machine Building Bakhirev and the accompanying delegation at 1300 today. Attending the meeting were Deputy Defense Minister Major General 'Awwad Bagh and the USSR ambassador in Damascus.

During the meeting, talks dealt with the strong bilateral relations of cooperation in all fields, as well as prospects for their continuous promotion. The prime minister was acquainted with the talks the guest held with Syrian officials and expressed his satisfaction with them.

At the end of the meeting, Dr al-Kasm asked the guest to convey his greetings to Comrade Nikolay Ryzhkov, USSR Council of Ministers chairman.

Departs Damascus

JN211611 Damascus Domestic Service in Arabic 1515 GMT 1515 GMT 21 Apr 86

[Text] Damascus -- USSR Minister of Machine Building Bakhirev and the accompanying delegation left Damascus at noon today following a visit to Syria which lasted several days. Discussed during the visit were ways to promote relations of friendship and cooperation between Syria and the USSR.

General Mustafa Talas, deputy commander in chief of the Army and the Armed Forces, deputy prime minister, and defense minister, saw the guest minister off at the airport.

ACCORD SIGNED BETWEEN CPSU, CONGOLESE PARTY

PM091322 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Apr 86 First Edition p 4

[TASS report: "Plan for Party Relations Signed"]

[Text] Brazzaville, 7 Apr -- A plan for party relations between the CPSU and the Congolese Labor Party (PCT) for 1986-1987 has been signed here within the framework of the 13 May 1981 agreement on cooperation between the CPSU and the PCT. This plan envisages the exchange of work experience and information, assistance in the training of PCT party cadres in the Soviet Union, and the exchange of delegations. In accordance with the plan, it is intended to hold a science colloqium in Moscow in 1986 on the problems of liberated countries' socialist orientation.

Pierre Nze, member of the PCT Central Committee Politburo, secretary of the PCT Central Committee, and chief of the party Central Committee International Department, stressed, when signing the document, the need to strengthen cooperation between the CPSU and the PCT for the sake of preserving peace and international security and eliminating the threat of mankind's nuclear destruction.

SOVIET MILITARY DELEGATION RETURNS FROM ETHIOPIA

PM081539 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 8 Apr 86 Second Edition p 3

[Unattributed report: "Visit Ends']

[Text] A delegation of leading political workers of the Soviet Armed Forces headed by Admiral A.I. Sorokin, candidate member of the CPSU Central Committee and first deputy chief of the Soviet Army and Navy Main Political Directorate, was in Socialist Ethiopia on a visit 31 March through 7 April 1986, at the invitation of the Ethiopian Revolutionary Armed Forces Main Political Directorate.

During the visit the delegation was received by Lieutenant General Tesfaye Gebre Kidan, member of the Workers Party of Ethiopia [WPE] Central Committee Politburo and minister of national defense.

Meetings and talks took place with Major General (Gebreyes Volde Khanna), member of the WPE Central Committee and chief of the Revolutionary Armed Forces Main Political Directorate.

The sides exchanged opinions and experience on questions of the organization and conduct of party political work in the two friendly countries' armies and the moral and psychological tempering of servicemen.

The delegation made a tour of the country, visited military units, and laid a wreath at the monument to the revolutionary fighters in Addis Ababa.

The visit took place in a warm, friendly atmosphere.

ETHIOPIA CONDEMNS U.S. ATTACK ON LIBYA

LD162222 Moscow TASS in English 0915 GMT 16 Apr 86

[Text] Addis Ababa April 16 TASS -- Ethiopia has condemned the U.S. attack on Libya that caused casualties and destruction, according to a spokesman for the Ethiopian Foreign Ministry. The act of unprovoked aggression was in violation of all norms of international law, he said.

The fact that a permanent member state of the U.N. Security Council was using raw force attested to the serious threat to all small countries, the spokesman pointed out. He said that Ethiopia demanded that the American Administration stop intimidating independent nations. Ethiopia called on the Organization of African Unity to render urgent assistance to Libya and hold an emergency session of the OAU Council of Ministers for that purpose. The African countries jointly with the United Nations should find means to ensure respect for Libya's sovereignty and territorial integrity, the statement said.

MORE SOVIET TECHNICIANS, PILOTS SENT TO ETHIOPIA

AU150740 Paris AFP in English 0444 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] Paris, April 15 (AFP) -- Up to 5,000 extra Soviet technicians and pilots have arrived in the Eritrean capital of Asmara to help preparations for a new large-scale Ethiopian offensive against Eritrean separatist forces, the rebel Eritrean People's Liberation Front claimed here Monday.

The Addis Ababa government had also conscripted about 50-60,000 people into the Army in connection with the offensive, it said in a statement. The new Soviet arrivals brought the total of Soviet military advisers in Eritrea to about 8,000, it added. The front appealed to the Soviet Union to use its "authority and influence" as a major power to bring "peace and stability" to the region instead of backing Ethiopia's policy of "expansionism and destabilisation."

ETHIOPIAN LEADER LAUDS SOCIALIST BLOC AID

PM161513 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 12 Apr 86 First Edition p 5

[TASS report: "Workers Party of Ethiopia Central Committee Plenum"]

[Text] Addis Ababa, 11 Apr -- A WPE Central Committee Plenum has been held here. It approved the country's draft constitution that is now to be submitted for nationwide discussion. The definitive version of the basic law will take into account Ethiopian working people's suggestions.

The development of agriculture is the main present-day task in Ethiopia, Mengistu Haile Mariam, general secretary of the WPE Central Committee and chairman of the Provisional Military Administrative Council, stated at the plenum.

The Ethiopian Government continues to help drought victims, Mengistu Haile Mariam pointed out. The campaign to move people from drought-affected regions and resettle them in fertile areas plays a paramount role in eliminating the after-effects of the natural disaster. Mengistu Haile Mariam expressed gratitude to the Soviet Union and other socialist countries for their assistance in combating the drought. From July 1984 through December 1985, he announced, 4.1 million people had received assistance at special centers. The WPE Central Committee general secretary condemned certain circles in the West, primarily the U.S. Administration, which spread lies about the resettlement campaign with the aim of destroying it.

Ethiopia's foreign policy, the country's leader stressed, is based on the principles of proletarian internationalism, peaceful coexistence, and nonalignment. Our country, he noted, advocates peace and progress in the Horn of Africa and will do its utmost to ensure them. Mengistu Haile Mariam declared the Ethiopian Government's readiness to normalize relations with Somalia.

IZVESTIYA Reports Meeting

PM151329 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 13 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 5

[Own correspondent Z. Kadymbekov dispatch: "Ethiopia: Mobilizing Efforts"]

[Text] Addis Ababa -- The fourth routine plenum of the WPE Central Committee has been held here. It examined the draft constitution of the future people's democratic republic and questions of domestic and foreign policy.

A long report was delivered to the plenum by Mengistu Haile Mariam, head of the party and state.

Stressing the importance of drafting the constitution as a paramount task on the way to creating the republic, the speaker noted that by decision of the plenum the preliminary version of the country's fundamental law would be submitted for discussion by all people.

The report allocated considerable space to economic problems. It was noted that certain tasks, above all in agriculture, have been resolved during the implementation of the programs adopted by the party and government. The first steps in that direction are promising. A larger harvest of agricultural crops has been obtained than in past years and the program to create new villages is being carried out. More than 7,500 villages have recently been created in Arsi, Shewa, and Harerge Provinces alone.

The government has taken resolute measures to help drought victims, the speaker stressed, which have made it possible to control the situation and save millions of lives. In the period from July 1984 through December 1985, food and other necessities were provided for more than 4 million people concentrated in camps especially built in 12 provinces.

The Ethiopian leader spoke highly of the assistance provided by the USSR, other socialist and friendly countries, and international organizations in the fight against the consequences of the drought. At the same time he sharply condemned the slanderous propaganda campaign launched by certain Western circles, above all the U.S. Administration, against the measures being taken by the party and Government of Ethiopia to combat the natural disaster.

The plenum reaffirmed Ethiopia's commitment in its foreign policy to the principles of proletarian internationalism, peace, and noninterference in other states' internal affairs. A resolution adopted by the plenum participants confirms the need to further mobilize efforts to boost labor productivity in the agrarian and other sectors of the economy, to increase the people's prosperity, and to ensure peace and progress.

SOVIET OFFICIAL MEETS WITH OUTGOING UGANDAN ENVOY

PM140924 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Apr 86 Morning Edition p 4

[TASS report: "On a Departure"]

[Text] On 10 April R.-B. Songayla, deputy chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, received Ochienghs Wellborn, Ugandan ambassador to the USSR, in connection with his impending departure from the USSR.

NICARAGUA'S BORGE ON U.S. 'ABDUCTION' OF MISKITOS

LD200450 Moscow TASS in English 0828 GMT 19 Apr 86

[Text] Puerto Cabezas, Nicaragua April 19 TASS -- By TASS correspondent Sergey Gorbunov: The U.S. Central Intelligence Agency has carried out another large-scale act of terrorism against the Indian tribe of Miskitos inhabiting the northern part of Nicaragua's Atlantic coast.

In the course of that operation armed gangs of the C.I.A.'s mercenaries intruded into Nicaraguan territory from Honduras and then drove by force back in Honduras more than 9,000 inhabitants of the Indian villages of San-Jeronimo, San-Alberto, Santa Fe and Las Espereanzas, all located near the border river of Coco.

As they left Nicaraguan territory, the counter-revolutionaries mined the vicinities of many Indian villages in order to prevent their inhabitants from returning to their home parts.

U.S. military units stationed in Honduras, Nicaraguan Interior Minister Tomas Borge, a member of the national leadership of the Sandinist National Liberation Front, told journalists in Puerto Cabezas, had given the "contras" direct aid in that massive abduction of Miskitos.

He said the acts of terrorism by U.S. mercenaries were directed at thwarting efforts to settle the situation in Selaya Department and talks on granting autonomy to the Atlantic coast, which were under way between the Nicaraguan Government and Indian organizations.

Borge said the Sandinist Revolution's enemies were aiming to provoke a secessionist movement but those plans would never materialize as the unity of the Nicaraguan people was inviolable.

The Nicaraguans, the interior minister said, were determined to fight till the last drop of their blood to defend the independence and sovereignty of their homeland.

CUBAN UN ENVOY ATTACKS U.S. 'NEOGLOBALISM' POLICY

LD162130 Moscow TASS in English 2328 GMT 15 Apr 86

[Text] New York April 16 TASS -- Alberto Velazco San Jose, Cuba's ambassador to the United Nations, stated Tuesday at the Security Council that the barbarous attack of the U.S. on Libya had become another manifestation of the policy of neoglobalism pursued by the U.S. Administration which cordially [as received] hated the striving of peoples for freedom and independence and which was trying to change the course of history.

According to Alberto Velazco San Jose, the U.S. pursues the same policy in Nicaragua in an attempt to strangle the Sandinista revolution, in Angola where it arms gangs of killers and in all other regions where peoples refuse to yield to the diktat of Washington and pursue an independent policy, where they repulse injustice and immorality of the claimant to world domination.

REPORT, COMMENT ON BAY OF PIGS ANNIVERSARY

Castro Gives Speech

LD201639 Moscow TASS in English 1613 GMT 20 Apr 86

[Text] Havana April 20 TASS -- Those who fought against the imperialist hirelings in Playa Giron and routed them battled for socialism. This has been stated by Fidel Castro, first secretary of the Central Committee of the Communist Party of Cuba, president of the Council of State and of the Council of Ministers of the Republic, in a speech at a celebration meeting on the occasion of the 25th anniversary of the defeat of the armed intervention of imperialist hirelings in Playa Giron and the proclamation of the socialist nature of the Cuban revolution. Touching upon the events that took place in Play Giron in those distant days, the Cuban leader said: Due to the presence of the combat equipment received mainly from socialist countries, and due to the courage, stoutness and patriotism of the air pilots, tankmen, artillery and infantry men, the victory over the hirelings was achieved within a space of less than three days.

He recalled that the socialist nature of the revolution had been proclaimed during the funeral of the victims of the bombings on the eve of the landing in Playa Giron.

"Those who fell in the fighting in Playa Giron saved the lives of hundreds of thousands and, maybe, millions of Cubans. We would win the victory in any event, but it would have been achieved at a price of the death of a huge number of people and complete destruction of the country. This is one of the lessons of Playa Giron which new generations should learn and remember forever".

"Another lesson of Playa Giron, which is indicative of the consequences which such attacks by imperialism may have, is that the Americans, upon coming to feel humiliated, took steps towards a direct aggression. This entailed measures which subsequently brought about the October crisis which put the world on the verge of a nuclear catastrophe".

"The events in Playa Giron showed the treacherous, aggressive and blood-thirsty nature of imperialism. Thus, when bombing Cuban airfields on April 15, 1961, the U.S. imperialists tried to deceive the world public by asserting that the act was committed by 'insurgent Cuban air pilots'. Previously U.S. imperialism had organized the overthrow of the democratic government of Jacobo Arbenz in Guatemala. After that, U.S. imperialism practised invasions of countries where revolutions took place, and conducted dirty wars against them. Everywhere U.S. imperialism used the same methods, showing an utter lack of conscience and honour".

"Nowadays imperialism seeks to stifle the peoples of Latin America by means of the noose of exorbitant external debt which amounts to almost 400,000 million dollars, uses high interest rates for its criminal purposes, and practises dumping and protectionism".

"It can be maintained", the Cuban leader went on to say, "that all patriots who rose against Spanish colonial domination, fought and died for socialism, for in those historical conditions that was the struggle for progressive ideas of those days. To struggle for socialism nowadays is to strive for the supreme forms of humanism, freedom and justice, for the supreme form of genuine freedom".

"The historic significance of the battle in Playa Giron", the Cuban leader said, "is not only in mass heroism and in what happened. It is in the price which Cuba would have to pay if the U.S. plan for the landing of hirelings succeeded and the country had to wage a struggle similar to the one conducted subsequently by Vietnam".

"That struggle", Fidel Castro emphasized, "would have been waged in much more difficult conditions because Cuba's territory and population are much smaller and, besides, it has no border with any country but the United States -- the main aggressor. In any event the victory would have been ours but it would have been achieved at a much higher price. This is one of the lessons of Playa Giron which new generations should remember always".

Speaking of the U.S. aggression against Libya, the Cuban leader qualified it as a treacherous, inhuman, disgraceful, criminal and terrorist action.

Having recalled the words of the Cuban representative at the United Nations, who described the U.S. aggressors as real successors of Hitler, the Cuban leader emphasized Reagan's unscrupulousness about means and his irresponsibility, which is particularly dangerous with the availability of nuclear weapons and of other sophisticated modern hardware which is designed to kill and destroy and which puts the world on the verge of a nuclear disaster.

"The purpose of the U.S. attack on Libya was to kill the leader of that country, Mu'ammar al-Qadhdhafi," Fidel Castro stated. It is known that the United States has long been busy working out plans for the assassination of political leaders by means of various barbarous methods, which is a crime which the U.S. itself confesses. However, there has been no such precedents so far for the president of one of the mightiest countries to resort to bombing in an attempt to kill the head of another state".

"The Americans knew that there were the wife and children of Al-Qadhdhafi in the house and nevertheless dropped dozens of bombs to raze it to the ground without the slightest concern that that posed danger to civilians and to foreign embassies in Tripoli. The U.S. Government had prepared in advance a statement in the event of Al-Qadhdhafi's death to describe it as 'fortuitous'. Where will this way lead us to? Truly, there is no difference between the bombing of Tripoli and the bombings of Warsaw, Amsterdam and London during the Second World War". Fidel Castro called for vigilance in the face of the intrigues of U.S. imperialism which resorts to gross lies to justify its criminal methods.

Fidel Castro voiced firm confidence that new generations of Cubans would defend the gains of the socialist revolution with the same courage and selflessness as the defenders of Playa Giron had done. Capitalism, he stated, will never return to Cuba and our country will never become imperialist property.

PRAVDA Views Lessons of Invasion

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[Article by P. Bogomolov: "Remember Playa Giron"]

[Text] This small settlement baked by the tropical sun is situated on the shore of the Bay of Pigs itself. You walk out onto the concrete pier and the boundless blue Caribbean opens up before your eyes. For visitors it is exotic, but for Cubans it is an ordinary landscape repeated almost everywhere along the coastline.

Yes, for Cuba this small corner is generally typical. But it is worth going into the square in the center of the settlement, where you will see smashed combat equipment with the label "made in the United States." Alongside there is a museum telling of the special role this stretch of Cuban soil was fated to play in modern history. It was here, 25 years ago, that an event took place which has become a glorious page in the annals of the Latin-American people's national liberation struggle.

...Spring 1961. A memorable time, a time filled with hope and daring. The land of the soviets is the home of the first manned space flight. The world is applauding the pioneers of the universe. On the banks of the Potomac -- dismay, which develops into unconcealed malice. The United States tries to counter socialism's increased international prestige with another demonstration of its military might. And primarily just where Washington is used to playing the boss -- in the Western hemisphere.

The so-called "Union for Progress" proclaimed by the White House in March 1961 was expected to play the role of the "carrot" in Washington's policy: a subsidy of $20 billion was presented virtually as a guarantee of overcoming Latin America's centuries of backwardness. As far as revolutionary Cuba was concerned, the imperialists set aside the whip for it. Murders, explosions, arson -- "cloak and dagger knights" from the CIA tried a whole assortment of criminal state terrorist methods against the island of freedom. Finally, on 15 April 1961 Havana and other cities in the republic were subjected to a massive air attack. The enemies counted on demoralizing the Cubans, but the result was directly the opposite. To the stormy applause of the popular masses, Fidel Castro proclaimed that the Cuban revolution was socialist by its nature. Two days later a team of Cuban counterrevolutionaries knocked together by the Americans landed near Playa Giron, but the people rose up in their path -- conscious defenders of Cuba's independence and sovereignty, of its socialist future.

The Bay of Pigs was clouded with the small of gunpowder and the acrid smoke of smouldering mangrove thickets. Declaring their brazen intention to proclaim a "democratic Cuban government" on the captured bridgehead, the fighters from brigade "25006" embarked on brutal reprisals against innocent inhabitants. Shaken by the aggression, the world was indignant. But Washington tried to present what had happened virtually as an "internal Cuban conflict" in which the United States had allegedly played no part. As if American vessels had not transported the interventionists to Playa Giron, as if American warships and planes had not covered the invasion. Whatever, the battle was all the more difficult for those defending Cuba, but the victory they gained over the enemy armed to the teeth in less than 72 hours was also the more impressive!

The victory at Playa Giron shattered the theory of "geographical fatalism" held by the Latin American states -- their allegedly being eternally doomed to dependence on the United States. It was proved before the whole world that even at a distance of many thousands of miles from the countries of the socialist community, a true people's revolution is capable of defending its achievements. Defending them thanks to the cohesion of all working people under the firm leadership of their combat vanguard and with fraternal, disinterested assistance from true friends, and primarily the Soviet Union.

Having suffered defeat in open battle, the enemies of socialist Cuba began to foretell its failure in peaceful pursuits. And what has happened? Over the last 25 years this once semicolonial U.S. appendage has developed into the most dynamically developing Latin American state with the highest GNP growth rates. The island of freedom is justly proud of the fact that it has the best indicators for the region in such spheres as national education, public health care, and sport. What is more, these high goals have been achieved in spite of unceasing intrigues by American imperialism, its trade and economic blockade, and "psychological warfare."

You can see the successes of socialist building everywhere in Cuba, including Matanzas province, on the territory where Playa Giron is situated. The largest citrus fruit farm here is named for the historic victory over the aggressors.

I spent the whole day traveling around grapefruit, orange, and lemon plantations covering tens of thousands of hectares. All around, like festive decorations, the gifts of the bountiful nature of the tropics shone on the leafy trees. The delicate aroma of fruit was wafted in the air. But before, two-thirds of this land was barren waste ground.

Juan Sureda, leader of the farm, said that these plantations yield approximately 250,000 metric tons of fruit, whereas before the revolution the island as a whole produced not more than 60,000 metric tons. Mechanization has been a great help for workers in the collective, and the majority of the 800 tractors available here are Soviet-produced. The bulk of the produce is exported to the USSR and other fraternal countries. These are just some of the aspects of the "citrus program" implemented on the basis of a multilateral agreement between Cuba and its CEMA partners.

"Implementation of this program gives a great deal in a social respect," the director summed up. "Take, for example, the substantial earnings of our workers, which have increased on average to 175 pesos per month. Or, even more important, the formation of 64 boarding schools on the farm's territory, whose students contribute to gathering the harvest by working as much as they are able, thereby acquiring work experience."

Appraising their achievements on merit, the Cubans do not stop at the point they have reached. They have a clear perception of their difficulties, errors, and unresolved problems. They boldly set about overcoming them. The ability of the republic's Communists to draw the correct lessons from the past was impressively reflected by the recent Third Cuban Communist Party Congress. Conducted in an atmosphere of a businesslike and critical approach to questions of the country's development, it clearly reaffirmed the party's strength and maturity and its increased experience in political leadership of the masses.

The cause of the Playa Giron heroes lives on and triumphs in the everyday life of Cuba today. The last 25 years are both a triumph of socialist building and evidence of its increased international prestige.

The republic's successes visibly contrast with the reality of the majority of Latin American countries. The "Union for Progress" proclaimed by Washington on the eve of its aggression at Playa Giron, like many other U.S. foreign policy doctrines, became a cruel deception. A $360 billion noose of debt and a cruel yoke of reactionary dictatorships -- this is what imperialism brings to Latin Americans. Revolutionary Nicaragua is in the front ranks of the confrontation. Showing invariable solidarity with the Sandinist motherland, its friends in Latin America say to the Washington adventurists: "If you do not wish shame and infamy, remember Playa Giron!"

Having stood its ground in the cruel fight against the aggressors, Cuba has become a firm outpost of the new society and a beacon of social progress in the Western hemisphere. The dynamism of its life, and its increasing number of new successes in the task of socialist building in spite of all difficulties, fill the hearts of Soviet people, working people in fraternal countries, and all people of goodwill with legitimate pride.